

BATAVIA ILLUSTRATA :

Or, a VIEW of the

POLICY, and COMMERCE,

OF THE

United Provinces:

Particularly of HOLLAND.

WITH AN

ENQUIRY

INTO THE

ALLIANCES

OF THE

STATES GENERAL,

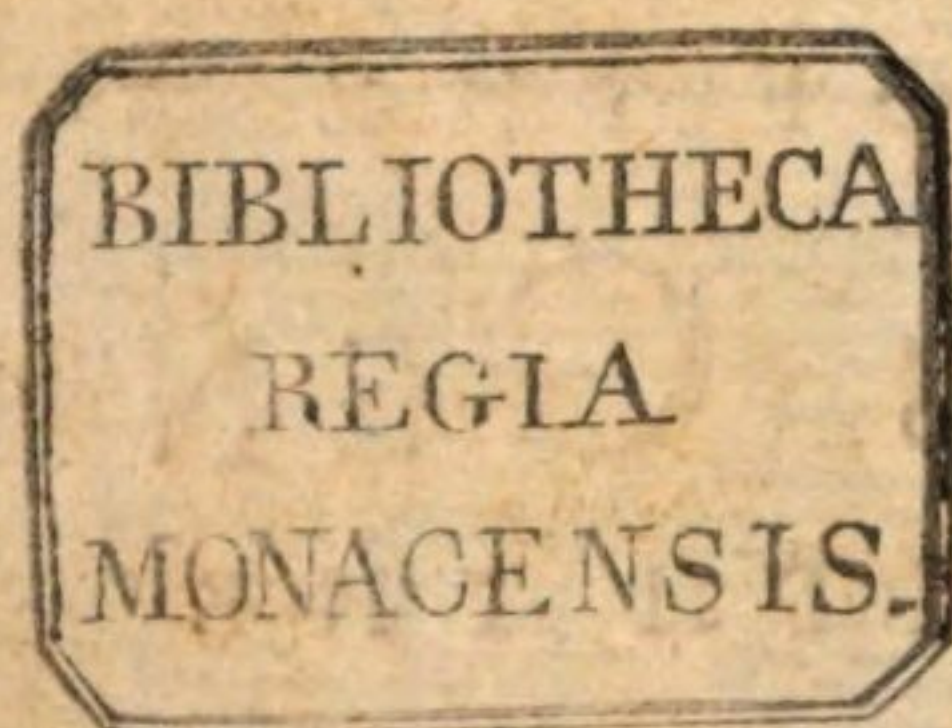
WITH THE

*Emperor, France, Spain, and
Great Britain.*

By ONSLOW BURRISH, Esq;

In Three PARTS.

VOL. II.



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BATAVIA ILLUSTRATA.

OR, AN

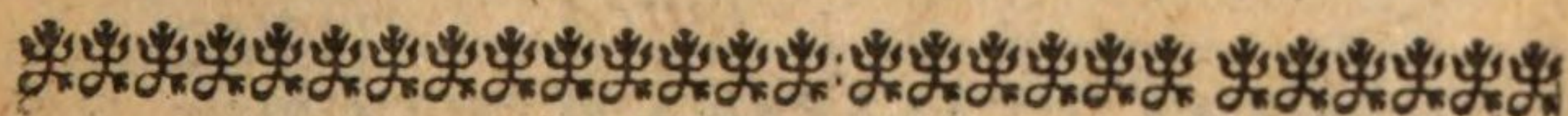
ENQUIRY

INTO THE

POLICY and COMMERCE

OF THE

UNITED PROVINCES.



PART II.



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ENGLISH

INTO THE

POLICY AND COMMERCE

OF THE

UNITED PROVINCES.

PART II.

AMSTERDAM



BATAVIA ILLUSTRATA

PART II.

*Of the FISHERIES, MANUFACTURIES,
and GENERAL COMMERCE of the
PROVINCE of HOLLAND.*

INTRODUCTION:



THE PROVINCE of HOLLAND,
is situated from fifty one to
fifty three Degrees of *North
Latitude*; full of Rivers, and
so extreamly low and flat,
that when the Tide is in,
the Water is almost every where higher
than

than the Land. It is impossible to enumerate the many Inconveniencies, which the Inhabitants sustain from the Neighbourhood of the Sea ; the number of their Rivers, and the Flatness of their Country. The *Winters* are long and severe, and the *Summers* short and unfruitful ; the cold Winds very often destroy the *Blossoms* of the *Spring*, and oblige them to gather the *Fruits* of *Autumn* before their Maturity. The large Dykes or Ramparts, which they throw up to keep out the Water, are an immoderate Expence to the Country ; and what is still worse, the Sea and the Ice very often cut, and break through their strongest Works, or force over them in such a Manner, that it often takes up Years to free the Country from the Inundation, and restore it to its former Circumstances. It is computed, that one Perch of a Sea-Dyke costs about *fifty Pounds Sterling* ; and in that Quarter of *Holland* called the *Rhineland*, which has but little Communication with the Sea ; Land is taxed at *forty Pence per Acre* for the first Cost of erecting the Dykes ; *thirty Pence*, for throwing or milling off the Floods, that are caused by excessive Rains ; and *twenty Pence per Acre* for keeping the Dykes, and Highways in Repair ; besides an infinity of *Forfeits*

feits, and *Chicanes* of the Collectors. So that Land is charged in this District at near nine Shillings *Sterling per Acre*, and It is still higher in *North Holland*, where I have known Proprietors that would be glad to make a Surrendry of their Lands situated in that Part of the Province, to any Person that would take Them off their Hands, or abandon them entirely if the *State* would permit It.

But this Situation, however inconvenient and unpleasant, has its Advantages with Relation to Commerce; for there being very little Land in *Holland*, and that extreamly bad, the Merchant has no Temptation to draw his Money out of Trade; which continues to accumulate from one Generation to another, and by this Means becomes so plenty, and Interest so very low, that the *Dutch* are from thence, in a great Measure enabled to sell cheaper than their Neighbours. Whereas in *England*, where there are so many Encouragements to settle in the Country, the generality of Traders are no sooner possessed of *twenty or thirty thousand Pounds*; than they begin to think of a Retreat, of Building, Planting, and other Amusements, just when their Fortune enables Them to traffick to Advantage.

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HOLLAND, which is thus in a perpetual Struggle with the *Sea* and the *Rivers*, contains about four hundred thousand Acres, exclusive of the *Turf Pits*, *Wood Lands*, *Heaths* and *Marshes*. This is generally a *Sandy*, barren Soil, which cannot be improved without vast Expence, and is very unfit for Tillage. But tho' we suppose the whole well cultivated, and sowed with Wheat; allowing sixty Bushels to be the Annual Product of each Acre; we shall still find, that even this would not afford *one Pound of Bread per Diem*, to each Inhabitant. So unequal are the Productions of the Country to the Number of the People. *Monsieur De Wit*, who made his Calculation about threescore Years ago, computed the People of *Holland* at *two Millions and a Half*; and if we may allow them to have encreased one Sixth in that Time, they must now be reckoned at *three Millions*, and may be supposed, according to that great *Minister*, so renowned for his *Algebraical* Calculations, to subsist in the following Manner. (a)

(a) See *De Wit's Memoires*.

Five hundred Thousand are employed in the several *Sea Fisheries*, including those who build the Vessels, and supply them with all manner of Necessaries; as *Rigging, Cables* and *Anchors*; with the *Barrels, Instruments*, and *Salt* used in that Trade. } 500000

2 We may reckon two hundred and fifty Thousand, employed in the *Agriculture* of the Country, and *Inland Fishery*; including those who *dig the Turf* for Firing; and those who furnish the *Nets, Instruments* and every Thing made use of in these Kinds of Labour. } 250000

3 Eight hundred Thousand are employed in the several *Manufactures* of the Provinces, whether for *Inland Consumption*, or *Exportation*; including the *Merchants* who deal in those *Manufactures*. } 800000

4 Three hundred Thousand are employed in *Building, Equipping* and *Navigating* all Kinds of Ships and trading Vessels. } 300000

1850000

1850000

- 5 Eight hundred Thousand, in }
 procuring, and furnishing all }
 Things necessary for the Sup- }
 port of *Life*; Aliments of all }
 Sorts, with *Cloaths, Buildings,* } 800000
Furniture, and all the long }
 Train of *Conveniencies, Super-*
fluities and *Embellishments.* }
- 6 The remaining three hundred }
 and fifty Thousand, are the *No-* }
bility; Those in Employments; } 350000
 Lawyers; All those that live on }
 their Rents, with their Servants, }
 the military Men, and the Poor. }

 3000000

And tho' this Calculation should be more or less erroneous, with Respect to the exact Numbers employed on each Species of Labour, yet 'tis very certain, the annual Produce of the Country is not sufficient to nourish a Tenth Part of its Inhabitants: And thus the Rest, being under a Necessity of fetching their Subsistence from Abroad, are forced to put forth all their Industry, and extend their Commerce on every Side, by which
 They

They mutually contribute to the Support and Assistance one of another.

But in order to know the several Causes which have concurred to bring so great a Number of People together, and crowd them into so narrow a Compass, It may be worth our while to go back, and take a View of the ancient State of the *European Commerce* in general.

Nothing is more certain, than that about seven hundred Years ago, Commerce was unknown in *Europe* ; unless to a few Merchants in the small Republicks of *Italy*, whose Trade, except that which They carried on to *India* by the *Caravans*, was entirely confined to the *Levant*, and the *Mediterranean* : so that in every Country the Inhabitants were forced to depend upon *Agriculture* for their Subsistence ; to sow and reap that They might eat ; and thus in the *North* and *East*, where they had no Merchants, and consequently no foreign Commerce, the People finding their Numbers augment, and apprehending a Famine either from an unfertile Year, or a late *Harvest*, thought it proper to discharge Themselves of as Many as They could, whom they encouraged to make *Inroads* upon their Neighbours, and to establish Colonies amongst Them ; which seems to have been the true Reason of

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those

those prodigious Swarms of *Northern* People, whose Footsteps are still to be traced in *Italy*, *France*, *Spain*: in the *Provinces* on this side the *Rhine*, and in *Great Britain*. These People were at their Height about a Thousand Years after our SAVIOUR, and 'tis certain they knew very little of Commerce. Money was not invented, or made the *Standard* of Value amongst Them. They exchanged their Superfluities with each other by way of *Barter*. We are told two *Pullets* were given for a *Goose*; Two *Geese* for a young *Hog*; three *Lambs* for a *Sheep*; and three *Calves* for a *Cow*. The Exchange of one sort of *Grain* for another, had also its established Proportion; insomuch that 'twas commonly known what Quantity of *Oats* should be given for such a Quantity of *Barley*; what *Barley* for *Rye*; and how much of This answered to so much *Wheat*. And unless it was in *Provisions*, and such Things as served the *Necessities* of Life, there was no Commerce at all.

The FLEMMINGS, who are the nearest Neighbours of FRANCE, and inhabit a fertile and pleasant Country, were the First that invented the Art of fabricating Stuffs; which augmented extreamly under BALDWIN EARL of FLANDERS, who in the Year 960, invented and established *annual Fairs* in the Towns

Towns of the *Low Countries*, with an *Exemption* from all *Duties of Importation or Exportation*, and all *Impositions* whatever; by which the *Commerce* of this Country was extreamly augmented, and continued to encrease for three hundred Years together, till the Invention of public Halls and Companies, where under the Pretence of examining if the Merchandizes were not Counterfeit, They made Attempts to confine the Manufactures to the *Cities*. But as all Constraint is hurtful to Commerce, so This produced a quite different Effect, and drove the *Manufacturers* into the *Villages*, from whence They were again forced to remove, by the *War* that broke out afterwards between *France* and *Flanders*, which obliged Them at last to sit down at *Louvain*, and *Tirlemont*, in *Brabant*. But it seems They were not better treated here, and the *Examinations* They underwent at the *public Halls*, with the high *Imposts* laid upon Them, soon occasioned a very great Revolution in Commerce. For these Vexations having caused a *Sedition* in *Ghent*, which ended in the Murder of two *Sheriffs* and eleven of the principal *Inhabitants*; and parallel *Commotions* happening afterwards at *Bruges*, where no less than fifteen Thousand *Inhabitants* were left dead on the Spot, and again at *Ipres* in 1303, upon the same Occasion,

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where

where the whole SENATE was massacred ; Many of the guilty Workmen took Refuge in ENGLAND ; where They introduced the first Knowledge of *Drapery* ; and others established Themselves in the Countries on each Side the *Maese*, particularly at *Leyden*, in the Province of *Holland*.

Before this Time, in the Year 1200, the GERMAN KNIGHTS of the CRUSADE, under Pretext of converting the PAGANS, had conquered several Countries, some of which situated on the River *Loder*, being barren and unfertile, They left to the *Profelitte Princes* ; but reserved the fruitful Countries of PRUSSIA and LIVONIA, with the Rivers *Wesel*, *Progol*, and *Down*, which made Them Masters of all the Produce of POLAND, LITHUANIA, and MUSCOVY : and from this Time the great eastern Towns which lay nearest Them, began to take off the gross Commodities of Those Countries ; which they again transported into the *Netherlands*, and to *France*, *England*, *Spain*, and *Italy* ; from whence they brought back what They had most Occasion for.

Afterwards in 1360, when the *War* between SWEDEN and DENMARK, had very much reduced the maritime Power of those Crowns ; Sixty six great eastern Towns entered into an Association, for the Defence and Protection of Navigation and Commerce.

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The principal of These were *Hamburgh, Dantzick, Lubeck, Frankfort, Leipfick, and Bremen*. They were called *Hanse Towns*, and by engrossing the eastern Trade, became Masters of the SEA, and consequently of COMMERCE; in which Posture they maintained themselves till the Year 1400, when the Method of *salt-ing Herrings*, being invented in *Holland*, and this Fishery added to the Manufactures of that Province, the *Dutch Commerce* then began to exceed that of the HANSE TOWNS, and continued to encrease every Day by their maritime Trade with BRUGES; till 1482, when the *Flemmings* made War with the ARCH-DUKE MAXIMILIAN, for the Guardianship of his Son, and the Administration of the Countries that belonged to Him. This War lasted ten Years, and very much affected SLUICE, the Sea-port of BRUGES, which those of ANTWERP and AMSTERDAM perceiving, and being ready to procure their own Advantage at the Expence of BRUGES, They assisted the ARCH-DUKE in all his ruinous and unjust Designs, by which they at last gained their End, and divided the Commerce of that Town.

Now commenced that vast Trade at *Antwerp*, which for more than an Age together made it the Envy of *Europe*. The ITALIANS having brought *Silk-worms* from PERSIA

and CHINA, began to make considerable Quantities of Silks, with the Production of those Insects, which they consigned for Sale to this City ; and the *East* and *West Indies* being discovered about the same Time, the SPANIARDS and PORTUGUESE brought hither all their Spices, and the ENGLISH, who since the Flemish Drapers settled amongst Them, had struck into the woollen Manufactory, kept their Warehouses at ANTWERP likewise ; which thus became the most flourishing Town for Trade in the Universe. They established several silk Manufactures, and had Numbers of Ships continually running between *France*, *Spain*, *Italy* and *England*. This Town however, as well as the Rest of *Brabant*, and *Flanders*, was situated at too great a Distance from the Sea, to admit carrying on the *Herring* and *Cod Fisheries*, with the other Branches of Commerce in general, to so great Advantage as in *Holland*.) The People of the *Baltick* had their Magazines at *Antwerp* amongst the Rest: but as on the one Side, They had more Occasion for the *Dutch Cod* and *Herrings*, than for the fine *Italian Goods* ; so the *Hollanders* took off far greater Quantities of their *Corn*, and other Productions of the *East*, than the *Antwerpers* had Occasion for.

Upon

Upon this Footing Commerce continued till the Year 1585, that *Antwerp* was taken by the DUKE of PARMA. For the King of SPAIN, willing to weaken a City that was too powerful for Him, by dividing Its Commerce and spreading it into other Towns, neglected to open the SCHELD, by reducing the *Zealanders*, whilst He had it in his Power; and ANTWERP having no Communication with the SEA, but by that River, the Merchants began to retire from thence, and settle Themselves at AMSTERDAM, which was already the most considerable trading Town of the *United Provinces*. The Persecution in the *Low Countries* on Account of Religion, and the War then carried on by Spain against France, England, and the *United Provinces*, by which PHILIP II, was at last so reduced, that He was no longer Master of the Sea, nor in a Condition to protect the Navigation of his Subjects, compleated the Ruin of Commerce in the *Spanish Netherlands*. The Question, was whither the Traders should retire. ZEALAND was their nearest Neighbour, but the Inclemency of the Seasons in those Islands, especially to the North, where the Winters are long and tempestuous, added to the Difficulty of transporting their Merchandizes into the neighbouring Countries, were Reasons against their settling there. In FRANCE and

ENGLAND, *Liberty of Conscience* was not permitted, and the Duties of Importation on foreign Commodities were very high. A third Part of the Manufactures however, fell to the Share of *England*, where the FLEMINGS then introduced the *Damasks, Serges, and Bays*. The *Fisheries* fell to *Holland* entirely, with the *Linnen Manufactury*, which settled it self at HARLEM; and Part of the *Drapery*, which became fixed at LEYDEN.



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S E C T. I.
O F T H E
D U T C H F I S H E R I E S.



B E F O R E we enter into a Detail of the *Dutch* Trade in general, It will be proper to take a View of their *Fisheries*, and *Manufactures*; which were the original Sources, and are now the Support of all their vast Navigation and Commerce. The *Dutch* Historian EMANUEL VAN METEREN, informs us that in 1610, there went from *Holland* fifteen hundred Busses or small Vessels, upon the *Herring Fishery*; and our Countryman Sir WALTER RALEIGH, who was employed by KING JAMES I, to enquire into it, made his Report to Him, that

that in the same Year 1610, the *Dutch* had no less than three Thousand Vessels employed in the *Herring Fishery* only. But in This He contradicts *Van Meteren*; and indeed considering how great a Lover Sir WALTER was of Commerce, we cannot wonder if He exaggerated the Account, in order to rouse up the supine Temper of the *King*, and inspire Him with an Emulation, which *Count Gondemar* the *Spanish* Minister knew but too well how to suppress. It is impossible to name the exact Number of Vessels the *Dutch* now employ on this *Fishery*, which vary every Year; but by all I could observe when in *Holland*, and all I was able to learn, I have Reason to believe the *Busses* employed to take Herrings, do not exceed *eight Hundred, communibus Annis*; but these are from *thirty to fifty Tuns*, whereas in the Time of *Van Meteren*, They were only from *twenty to thirty Tuns*; so that tho' the Number of Vessels now employed be not so great, yet this is more than made up in their Size, and there is, I believe, a greater Quantity of Fish taken at present, more Hands than ever employed, and a proportionable Consumption of every Thing that depends on this Fishery. The Importance of the *Herring Trade*, will best appear to Us, if we consider how many different

different Parts of Commerce It gives Motion to; and how great a Number of People depend on each of them. In the first Instance, we may reckon those Merchants who send Numbers of Ships every Year to the *North*, to bring Home the *Timber*, and other Materials employed in the first Construction and annual Repair of the *Busses*; with the several Trades that depend on the fitting out these Vessels, and the *Seamen* that navigate them: To these must be added all those employed in Building and Repairing the *Busses*; the *Carpenters*, *Caulkers*, *Smiths*, *Ropemakers*, and *Sailmakers*; with the *Coopers*, who make the prodigious Number of Casks used for *Package* of the *Herrings*; the *Net-Makers*, and all other little Trades who furnish the several *Instruments* necessary in the *Manufactory*; nor must we forget the great Quantity of *Salt* used in curing the *Herrings*, of which there is so prodigious a Consumption, that this Article alone employs several hundred Sail of Ships, who fetch it every Year from the Coast of *France*, and other Parts, and employ in their Turn the several Trades before enumerated. To these must be added the vast Number of Persons employed in Navigating the *Busses*, and in taking, dressing,
and

and packing the *Herrings*; with the Ships that afterwards transport Them from *Holland* almost into every Part of *Europe*. All which being computed, we may venture to affirm, that a thousand *Busses* sent out upon this Fishery, give Employment and Subsistence to *thirty thousand Families* at least, not including that vast Number of People, who get their Living by the necessary Consumption of all Kinds of *Cloathing*, and *Provisions*, that They Occasion.

There are two Seasons for the *Herring Fishery*, the first of which continues for a Month or five Weeks, on the Coast of *Scotland*, from the latter End of *June*, to the latter End of *July*; and the Second holds from the Middle of *September*, to the latter End of *November*, on the Coast of *England*, about *Tarmouth* and *Loestaff*. Perhaps Sir WALTER RALEIGH's Error, if It were so, was occasioned by first taking the Number of *Busses* employed on the *Scotch* Coast, and adding Them to those afterwards seen on the coasts of *England*; whereas They are in Reality the very same Vessels that freight Themselves first from the Sholes They find on the Coast of *Scotland*, and afterwards make two Trips to that of *England*, in the second Season; so that each *Buss* usually brings

brings Home three Cargoes of *Herrings* in one Year.

After what has been said, It will not appear strange, that the *States General*, should have been always very assiduous to procure the necessary Grants from *Great Britain*, for fishing on our Coasts ; and to have this Right garranteed to Them, by Those whom They thought best able to protect Them in it ; but how far We may have complied with their earnest Desires in this Point, and how far it may have been garranteed by *France*, or what Right that *Crown* had to enter into such a *Garrantee*, will very naturally fall under our Enquiry in the third Part of this Discourse. 'Tis certain the *States* have neglected nothing at Home, that could possibly bring this Manufactory to Perfection : There are an infinite Number of *Placarts* or *Ordinances*, that regulate the Times and Order of Fishing, and are so many Directions for the Methods of *curing* and *packing* the *Herrings* ; all which it would be very necessary for any Set of Men to understand that may attempt this Fishery.

After That of the HERRINGS, the COD FISHERY is of the greatest Importance to the DUTCH, who take a vast Quantity of these *Fish* on the *Dogger Bank*, a Sand of a considerable Extent in the *North Sea*, on which there is a proper Depth of Water for the
Fishermen.

Fishermen. They generally employ every Year two or three hundred Vessels in this Service, which are from *Forty* to *Sixty* Tuns, and are called *Doggers* from the Place where They take their *Fish*. It would be unnecessary to enumerate the Advantages reaped from this *Fishery*, which are the same in Proportion with Those derived from the *Herrings*. The constant Sale of the vast Quantity of *Fish* the *Hollanders* salt up, is secured, by the Religion of some of the circumjacent Countries, and the Scarcity of Provisions, or the Poverty of the Inhabitants in others. In the *Austrian Netherlands*; a great Part of *Germany*, *France* *Spain*, and *Italy*; the People are obliged to abstain from Flesh, for at least one fourth Part of the Year. It is the same with Those of *POLAND*, who are supplied with their *Fish* from *Dantzick*; and the other People of the *Baltick* take off great Quantities; so that these Commodities always come to a ready Market, which is the Point of greatest Consideration in Commerce.

The *GREENLAND FISHERY* employs about Two hundred Sail of Ships every Year, from Two Hundred and Fifty, to four hundred Tuns. This Trade however

ever, is thought to be a Kind of *Lottery*, and is therefore undertaken by Persons of overgrown Fortunes, who if They fail this Year, expect better Luck the next, and do not feel the Disappointment ; but it is of undoubted and universal Benefit to the *State* in general, as it promotes the Encrease of Navigation, and the Consumption of every thing that depends on it.

The *Inland Fishery* is likewise of very great Importance to the *Dutch*. Their Lakes and Rivers afford Them almost all Kinds of fresh Water *Fish* ; and those that are proper to the *Sea*, are taken on every Part of their Coast, with which their Markets are supplied in the greatest Plenty and Perfection ; and what is more than sufficient for the Home Consumption, is pickled up, and added to their *Cod* and *Herrings*, for Exportation. It may be expected perhaps, that I should indicate the exact Quantities of *Fish* that the *Dutch* export annually ; but This is impossible, because not only the Number of Vessels they employ in *Fishing* is various in different Years, but their Success is uncertain, and 'tis usual enough to take twice the Quantity in one Year, that They do in another. Sir WALTER RALEIGH has affirmed indeed, but upon what Grounds

Grounds I know not, that the *Dutch* exported annually no less than *three hundred Thousand Tuns of salted Fish, of one Kind or another*. GERARD MALINES has somewhere or other said the same Thing; and MONSIEUR DE WIT, who was fond enough of magnifying every Thing that might reflect any Honour on his Country, quotes both these Authors in his *Memoires*, and infers, that in his Time, there must be a great deal more than *three hundred thousand Tuns* exported yearly from *Holland*, because the *Dutch* Commerce in general was augmented one third since the Year 1610, when Sir *Walter Raleigh* wrote. For my own Part, It becomes me to have all manner of Deference for Sir *Walter Raleigh*, but unless we can allow that the *Dutch* sent out *three Thousand Vessels annually upon the Herring Fishery*; that these Vessels made constantly *three Voyages in the Year*; and that every Voyage They caught their entire Loading of Herrings, the Computation cannot be just. But as to the first of These, *Van Meteren*, who was a Dutchman, speaking of the Year 1610, which Sir *Walter* instances in his Representation to KING JAMES, fixes the Number of Vessels employed in this *Fishery* at about *fifteen Hundred*. And for the last, If we consider how precarious a Trade

Trade *Fishing* is, We shall find it hard to believe that SIR WALTER'S *three thousand Vessels*, should never fail to take their *full Cargoes three Times a Year*. In short, if the Thing could be ascertained, *Monsieur De Wit*, who could not want Information, would not have omitted to have given his own Authority for it.

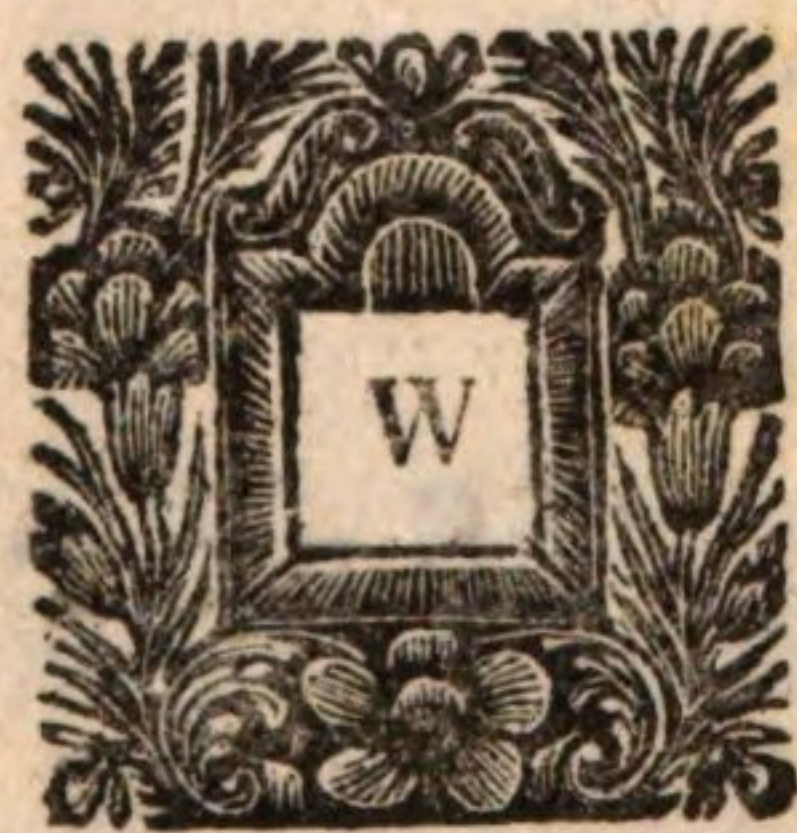


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SECT



S E C T. II.
OF THE
DUTCH MANUFACTURES,
And the distinct
BRANCHES of COMMERCE,
Peculiar to the several
T O W N S
OF THE
PROVINCE of HOLLAND.



WE have already observed, that upon the taking of *Antwerp* by the DUKE of PARMA, in the Year 1585, the Merchants and Manufacturers, who made up the Trading Body of that opulent City, began to remove

move from thence, and settle themselves in *England*, and the *United Provinces*. The *Drapers* that went to *Holland*, incorporated themselves with those whom they found already established at *Leyden*; but the Bulk of the Merchants and general Traders sat down at *Amsterdam*, which for some Time, had been the most considerable Town for Trade of all the *Seven Provinces*, and now began to triumph in the Spoils of *Antwerp*. The *Woollen* and *Linnen Manufactures* were brought to a tolerable Perfection in all their several Branches; which, with the Fisheries mentioned in the preceding Section, continued to be the principal Employments of the *Dutch*, from 1585 to 1648, when they were acknowledged a free and independant People by the SPANIARD, and the Treaty of MUNSTER concluded upon that Footing, between the CROWN of SPAIN and the Republic of the *United Provinces*. Hitherto the *Hollanders* had carried on a free and open Trade to *France*, from whence they brought all the fine Mercery Goods they had Occasion for; as *Velvets*, *Silks* of all Kinds, *Gold* and *Silver Stuffs*, and several other Manufactures, which were not yet practised in the *Seven Provinces*. But Misunderstandings arising between the two Nations upon the Treaty of

Munster, the *French* began to make Encroachments on the *Dutch Trade*; and refused to renew the ancient Treaties of Commerce. *Piracies* were committed on the *Hollanders* by their *Privateers* in the *Mediterranean*, and elsewhere, and a new Duty of *fifty Sols per Tun* was laid on all foreign Ships trading to the *French Ports*. This Interruption to Trade on the part of *France*, first inspired the *Hollanders* with the Design of setting up in their own Country, the several Manufactures that were then peculiar to that Kingdom: Yet they left Nothing unattempted to restore the Freedom of Commerce, and re-establish the Harmony that had hitherto subsisted between the two Nations.

Eleven Years from the Peace of *MUNSTER*, were already taken up in fruitless Attempts, and Negotiations, to this Purpose, when in 1659, *MONSIEUR BOREEL*, the *Dutch Ambassador* at the Court of *France*, prevailed with the united Body of Merchants at *Paris*, to make a Representation to their Court, of the great Quantity of *French Merchandize* that was yearly exported to *Holland*; and *BOREEL* affirmed, that in Case the new Duties laid on Dutch Goods and Shipping, coming into *France*, were continued, the *STATES GENERAL* would

would be obliged to Charge *French Commodities* imported into the *Seven Provinces*, in the same Proportion. This Representation had its Effect on the *Court of France*, and in 1662, a Treaty was made between that *Crown* and the *States General*, which was succeeded by a new *Tariff* in 1664, that set aside the Duty of *fifty Sols per Tun*, and established Commerce on the ancient Footing. But this good Intelligence did not last long; and in 1667, the *French* encreased the Imposts on foreign Merchandize, without any Regard to the Treaty they had made but five Years before. The War which broke out between *France* and the *United Provinces* in 1672, put an entire Stop to open Trade between the two Nations, and animated the *Dutch*, in the Resolution They had taken to set up Manufactures at Home, for the Goods They used to bring from *France*; in which They succeeded so well, that when that War was ended by the Peace of NIMEGHEN, in 1678, and a Treaty of Commerce concluded at the same Time, between *France*, and the *Republic*, which set aside the *Tariff* of 1667, and restored That of 64 in Favour of the *Dutch*, yet it was immediately found that French Goods bore no Price at *Amsterdam*; upon which a very inge-

nious Author has left us this Observation,
*That Commerce once destroyed never recovers
It self.*

There continued, however, to be some
Importation of *French* Manufactures into
Holland 'till the Year 1690, when *War*
between *France* and the *Republic* broke out
with more Violence than ever, and was at-
tended with the severest Prohibitions of
Commerce. This obliged the *Dutch* to
apply themselves to their Manufactures,
with double Industry, which They now
brought to so good a Perfection, that not-
withstanding Peace was restored to *Europe*,
by the Treaty of RESWICK in 1697, and a
Treaty of Commerce concluded between
France and the *United Provinces*, which
once more annihilated the Tariff of 1667,
and the Duty of fifty *Sols*, with all the
other vexatious Edicts that then interrupt-
ed the *Dutch Trade* to *France*; and restor-
ed the Tariff of 64; the *Hollanders* found
themselves in a Condition to carry on
their Commerce almost entirely with their
own Manufactures. *Velvets*, *Satins*, and
other *Silks*; *Gold* and *Silver Brocades*; *Rib-
bons* of all Kinds; *Lace*, *Paper*, &c. were
now fabricated in *Holland*, and sold *Twenty
per Cent.* cheaper than in *France*, and if
the *Silks* were not quite so beautiful as
Those

Those of *Tours* and *Lions*, the Difference in the Price was more than answerable to that of the *Commodity*; and the *French* had the Mortification to see their Trade to *Holland* very much diminished, or rather destroy'd, in all the above-mention'd Articles.

Nothing contributed more to bring these Manufactures to a Perfection in *Holland*, than the Number of *French Refugees*, who fled thither from the Persecutions raised against all those of the *reformed Religion* in *France*, and were received by the *Dutch* with great Humanity. CARDINAL RICHLIEU had broke the Strength of the *Hugonots*, by the taking of *ROCHELLE* in 1627, who from the Year 1562, upon the Infraction of the Edict published in their Favour by *Charles the Ninth*, immediately after the famous Conference of *Poissy*, had supported Themselves in ten different Wars against the *Crown* of *France*; but were so effectually reduced by the Loss of *Rochelle*, and the Calamities that followed upon It, that when upon the Death of MAZARINE in 1661, LEWIS XIV, took the Government of his Kingdom into his own Hands, He saw Himself in a Capacity of driving Them out of *France* by the Authority of his Edicts alone, who for an Age together, had maintained Themselves against all the

Force of his Predecessors, backed with all the Subtlety and Aid of the *Church of Rome*, which was unalterably bent for their Destruction. The *Protestants* thus reduced, and persecuted, had for Thirty Years together fled in great Numbers out of *France*, and were well received and encouraged in several Countries, particularly in *England*, the *Protestant Cantons of Switzerland*, and the *united Provinces*; and being for the most part *Merchants* and *Artizans*, They applied Themselves readily to *Commerce* and *Manufactures*, and were very instrumental in bringing Those of *Holland* to Perfection.

EUROPE had scarce tasted the Effects of the Peace made at RESWICK, when upon the Death of CHARLES II, KING of SPAIN, It was again plunged in a bloody and obstinate War. LEWIS XIV, set up his Grandson the DUKE of ANJOU to be KING of SPAIN, grounding his Title upon the Will of the deceased Prince; which being controverted by the EMPEROR, the *second grand Alliance* was form'd at the HAGUE September 1701, in Consequence of which the *United Provinces* declared War against *France* in the subsequent Year, which lasted till 1713, when Peace was again restored between the two Nations by the *Treaty of Utrecht*, and the *Tariff* of 64 once more revived. It will be more particularly

particularly our Business in the Sequel, to examine the present State of the Trade between *France* and *Holland*; and In the Mean Time, It cannot be improper to mention the several Branches of Commerce peculiar to each Town of that Province.

LEYDEN is in the Possession of the *Woollen Manufactory*, which is carried on there, in all Its Branches of *broad* and *narrow Cloath*, *Camblets*, *Serges*, *Druggets*, &c.

The *University* of this Place, was erected by the *States of Holland*, in 1575, in Gratitude for the Vigorous Resistance made by the Town against the *Spaniards* in the foregoing Year. We are told, the People of *Leyden* endured the most cruel Extremities of *War* and *Famine*, with a *Constancy* hardly to be paralleled; the PRINCE of ORANGE had lost all Hopes of raising the Siege, and the City was upon the Point of becoming a Prey to a merciless *Enemy*, when by cutting their *Dykes* at a Time when the Wind favoured the Design, the Meadows and low Lands about the Town, were covered in an Instant, with a Deluge of Water, which so amased the SPANIARDS, that They abandoned the Siege with Precipitation, leaving their Baggage and the wounded behind them.

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The UNIVERSITY has three *Curators*, who are such for Life; one of These is of the Colledge of NOBLES and elected by Them. The other Two, who are either Members of the *Town Senates*, or the *Courts of Justice*, are chosen by the STATES of HOLLAND; and these *Gentlemen*, in Conjunction with the BURGOMASTERS of LEYDEN, are charged with every Thing that regards the Advantage and Prosperity of the *University*. Besides these three *Curators*, there is the RECTOR MAGNIFICUS, who Presides at the Head of the *Academical Senate*, which is invested with the Power of Judging all Causes both *civil* and *criminal* in the last Resort, and all Members of the *University* whose Names are registred in the *Rector's* Books, depend on his Jurisdiction.

In the CITY of HARLEM, besides all the *fine Linnen* which is wove in the Place, They draw vast Quantities from the Neighbouring Provinces of *Groninghen*, *Frizeland*, and *Over-yssel*; from the Country of *Cleve*, and even from *Silesia*; all which is bleached at *Harlem*, and there receives that beautiful *White*, which is so generally admired, and makes the *Dutch Linnen* more Valuable than any in the World. To this we must add *Velvets*, plain and flowered; *Gold* and *Silver Stuffs*, rich and light *Silks* of many Kinds, *Gauzes*, &c.

DELFT

DELFT is famous for the fine *earthen Ware* which bears the Name of that City, and is made in Imitation of CHINA: Here are likewise a few *Clothiers*, who employ Themselves in the *Woollen Manufactory*; and a great many *Brewers* who make a vast Quantity of Beer, which is consumed in the circumjacent Villages.

The delightful City of ROTTERDAM is in Possession of the Trade to GREAT BRITAIN and IRELAND, almost to the Exclusion of all the Rest. Her Commerce to FRANCE is likewise very considerable, and much superior to that of any other Town in the *Province*; She also drives a considerable Trade to the *East* and *West Indies*, and to the *Levant*, *Italy*, *Spain*, and *Portugal*.

The ancient Town of DORT, was formerly famous for the *English Trade*, as it is now for *Rhenish Wine*, which is brought down the *Rhine* by a very cheap and commodious Transport; to which we must add a vast Quantity of *Timber*, which is sent from GERMANY, in Floats down that River, directly to this City, from whence it is afterwards distributed to *Sardam*, *Rotterdam*, and other Parts of the *Province*. The best *Linnen Thread* is spun here; They have several Refineries for *Salt*; now and then

then an *English Ship* unloads at *Dort*, and the *Magistrates* omit Nothing that may possibly encourage our Country-men to return thither, but at present there is no Appearance that ever They will recover the *English Trade* from *Rotterdam*.

I know of Nothing manufactured at *Ter-gow*, except *Cordage* and *Pipes*, of both which there is a very great Consumption, and their *Pipes* are the neatest in *Europe*.

AMSTERDAM is the Glory of *HOLLAND*, and the *Wonder* of the *World*. This City alone, is in the Possession of half that immense Trade which the *Dutch* carry on to the *East Indies*, and governs the Whole. Her Commerce with *Spain*, and the *Spanish West Indies*, is very great, nor is it less considerable to the *Levant*, *Italy*, and *Portugal*. *Amsterdam* alone ingrosses the whole *Eastern Trade*, which the *Dutch* carry on to *Norway*, and all the Countries situated on the *BALTICK*, *Denmark*, *Sweden*, *Pomerania*, *Livonia*, *Polish-Prussia*, and *Muscovy*, together with the greatest Part of *Germany*. Navigation and general Commerce, from this City to *France* and *England* are not very great; but the Correspondence between the *Bankers* of *Amsterdam*, and those of *London*, and *Paris*, in the Business of *Exchange*, and that sort of Traffick that depends on Bank-
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ing, is highly considerable. In short, *Amsterdam* has her Share in all the Business that is done in *Europe*, and all the trading World.

To this prodigious Extent of foreign Commerce, we must add the *Manufactures* already ascribed to the several Towns above-mentioned; all of which, with Exception only to the *Delft Ware*, are more or less practised in this powerful and opulent City. A Multitude of Hands are employed in all Kinds of *Tapestry*; there are Numbers of MILLS for sawing all sorts of *Wood* into different Dimensions. Others to work and polish *Marble*; Mills for making *Gunpowder*; for grinding *Snuff*; and for drawing Oyl from *Seed*. There are REFINERIES for *Sugar*, *Salt*, *Cinnamon*, *Camphire*, *Borax*, *Sulpher*, *yellow Wax*, &c. And as *Huetius* observes, One may apply to *Amsterdam*, what *VOPISCUS* said of *Alexandria*, after he had summed up the Manufactures practised there. ‘ That all
‘ its Inhabitants followed some Trade, that
‘ the *Lame* and the *Gouty* were employed,
‘ and even Those who had the *Gout* in their
‘ *Hands*, did not sit idle.

After what has been said, it may not be improper to enquire what Reasons might probably induce the *Merchants* to settle in this City upon their leaving ANTWERP, preferably

ably to any other Town of the Province. The PORT of AMSTERDAM, which is the *Texel*, is not only the worst of all *Holland*, but perhaps of the World, and it may be said with great Confidence, there is no trading Place of any Importance, where the *loading* and *discharging* of Ships is performed with so much Hazard, and Difficulty. Between the *City* and the *Texel*, lies a large Sand called the POMPUS, on which there is so little Water, that the Merchants are obliged to send their Ships light into the *Texel*, where they take in their Cargoes, from Vessels of a small Draught, and in the same manner homeward bound Ships are obliged to anchor and continue there, till the same Kind of *Lighters* can be sent down from the *City*, into which they discharge Themselves. And besides the Delay and Expence occasioned by this, the *Texel* is at the same Time one of the most dangerous *Roads* in *Europe*; and Ships are frequently wrecked whilst they wait there for *Lighters* to unload into: From whence we may observe, that the Nature of the *Port* has little or no Influence upon Commerce, since this *City* has at once the worst Harbour with the most extensive Trade. But if the Sea-Port of *Amsterdam* be bad; when once Goods are lodged in the *Ware-house*, there is no Place so advantageously situated for the Sale of them.

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This will be evident, when we consider that almost every Wind serves to carry small Vessels of Transport in a few Hours, to and from the Provinces of *Friezland*, *Overyssel* and *Gelderland*, and to all the Towns of *North-Holland*, without depending on the Tide, or any other Flux or Current. And as it is a Maxim in Commerce, and I believe may hold Good in every thing else, *that the View of a certain Profit is to be preferred to that of an uncertain Loss*: 'tis no wonder that the Merchants should be tempted to sit down here, to overlook the Dangers of the *Texel*, and forget the Losses they sometimes sustain, for the sake of the other Conveniences, which this City affords them preferable to any other; as in Reality there is no Town in the *Universe*, where all Kinds of Commodities find so sure and quick a Market as at *Amsterdam*.

I shall conclude what I have to say of this Town, with some Account of its BANK, erected in the Year 1609; A Subject, I think, that no Writer has yet touch'd upon, or very slightly. Sir WILLIAM TEMPLE, contents Himself to mention only two Circumstances, as Causes of the great Credit this Bank has obtained in *Europe*, which are *the strong Situation of Amsterdam*, and *the independant Sovereignty, that every Town of Holland enjoys, by the Constitution*

stitution of the Province: but He is not pleased to say a Word, either of its exterior or interior Government, which I am the more surprized at, as Sir *William* appears every where fond enough of unveiling the *Arcana Imperii* of the *Dutch*. Therefore it will not be improper for me to bespeak the Candour of the Reader, whilst I give Him the best Accompt I can of so delicate and mysterious a Subject.

The strong Situation of *Amsterdam*, seconded by all the Advantages that Art can furnish, secures the Town against the Attempts of an Enemy from without; and the popular Government places the Force and Power of the City in the Hands of Her proper Magistrates, who may be supposed too much interested in the Happiness and Grandeur of *Amsterdam*, to wish a Revolution, or to be capable of using their Authority for its Destruction, instead of its Defence.

I am ready to confess that these Circumstances ought naturally to procure a very great Credit to the Bank; but they are still insufficient to make Money deposited there, of greater Value than That which a Man keeps in his own Cabinet; which is in Reality the Case, however, and Bank Money is worth a great deal more in *Holland* than Current.

This is expressed by the Word AGIO, a Term made use of to denote the Difference of
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of the real Value, between *Bank* and *common Specie*.

In 1690, the *Agio* rose to *seventeen per Cent.* on account of a *base* Coinage then made current, which being afterwards reduced to near the *intrinsick Value*, the *Agio* has since been generally from *Four* and a *Half*, to *Five* and a *Half*, and sometimes even *Six per Cent*; Part of which may be accounted for thus. A *Ducatoon* passes for *sixty three Pence* in *current* Payment, but when paid into the *Bank*, it is only received for *sixty Pence*, or three *Guilders*, which is its *Intrinsick Value*; the odd three Pence having been added to it, to answer the *Charges of the Mint*. In the same manner *Wedges*, *Bars*, and *Ingots* of *Gold* and *Silver*, are received in *Bank* by their *Weight*, and the Sum brought to the Account of the *Proprietor*.

Thus then there is a real *Difference* of five *per Cent*, between *Bank* and *current Money*; but the *Agio* is usually higher, fluctuating with the *Exchange*; or to use other Words, rising and falling in Proportion to the Demands that are made on the *Bank*: So that it is not absolutely determined by the *Difference* of *intrinsick Value*, between one *Specie* and the other. This will be understood more perfectly, by observing that all *Bills of Exchange* drawn upon *Holland*, must if the

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Proprietor pleases, by the Custom and Laws of the Country, be paid in *Bank*; which necessarily obliges every considerable Merchant to keep an open Account there: and thus *Bills of Exchange* drawn upon *Amsterdam* or *Rotterdam*, are after Acceptance frequently lodged in the *Bank*, and the Acceptor is obliged at the Time they become due, to make a Transfer of Bank-Stock or Bank-Money, to the Proprietor's Account, for the Amount of the Bill, which would otherwise be liable to a Protest, without ever presenting it for Payment, after it had been once accepted. Thus when large Remittances are made upon the *Bankers* of *Amsterdam*, and they are under a Necessity from thence, of having a great deal of Money in *Bank*, the *Agio* rises, and sinks in Proportion, when on the contrary, there are many Sellers, and few Buyers. But when this happens, the *Directors* have recourse to Stratagem, to keep up the Value of the *Agio*, which is done by agreeing privately, with some of the monied Men, to buy up such a Quantity of Bank Money, as answers the immediate Necessity of the Sellers; and thus Appearances are saved, and by supplying their Agents with Cash in the most secret Manner, they support the common Opinion that has so long prevailed with the People of *Holland*, and the rest of the World,

World, *that the whole Business of the BANK of AMSTERDAM is managed by TRANSFER, and that no Money is ever issued from thence upon any Occasion.*

It costs near a Pound Sterling to open an Account with the *Bank*, and six Pence for each *Transfer*, to which we may add, that there is a certain Penalty upon every Person that draws upon the *Bank*, within about two Pounds *Sterling* of the whole Money he keeps there; and the Advantage made upon all this, is applied to pay the *Clerks*, and defray other Charges; from all which it is evident, that every Proprietor pays considerably for keeping his Money in the *Bank*, instead of drawing an Interest upon it.

Without Doubt, the only Reason why Persons are contented to deposit their Money upon such Terms, is a firm Belief, that it remains *sacred, untouched, and unapplied to any Use whatsoever.* The MAGISTRATES of AMSTERDAM; all Those concerned in the Government of the *Bank*; and in general, the whole Body of the *seven Provinces*, take Pains to propagate this Opinion, and appear at least to be of the same Mind Themselves.

I have been informed from very good Hands, that in 1672, when LEWIS XIV, was at *Utrecht*, and there was a general Run on the *Bank of Amsterdam*, occasioned by the

universal Terror, and Apprehension, that all Men lay under from the near Approach of the *French* Troops ; the *Magistrates* took some of the most considerable, and most popular of Those who talked loudest, and offered to convince them by ocular Demonstration, that the vast Treasures deposited in the *Bank*, were really there. The Story ends thus, that an infinite Number of *Baggs* appeared, which the *Magistrates* affirmed to be full of Money, and that upon Proof, it would be found that the original Sums lodged in the *Bank*, where there to a *Stiver* ; but they said at the same Time, *That those who continued to distrust Them, and to break the public Credit, by making their Demands at a Time when the State was in so great an Exigency, should be stigmatized as bad Subjects, and should not be permitted to replace their Money in the Bank, when the Storm was blown over.* This bold Declaration had Its Effect. The Call ceased, and the *Bank* preserved Its Credit. I cannot help wishing, however, as a good *English Man*, zealous for the Honour of those great *Magistrates*, that the Experiment had been made : an Event, which would have evidenced the Truth, beyond Contradiction, and have placed the *Veracity* and *Honour* of those Gentlemen, as well as the *Credit* of their *Bank*, upon a solid and

and lasting Foundation. But perhaps those *Fathers* of the *City* thought it proper to keep the Money where it was, that if the *ARMY* of *FRANCE* had advanced, and a *Million of Ducats* well placed, would have raised the *Siege*, they might not have been wanting

If the *Bank* lends Money upon any Occasion, It is certainly to the Directors of the *Lombard*, an incorporated Body of Men *impowered by Authority to lend Money upon Pawns at a moderate Interest*. Should this be granted, It will prove indeed, that the *Bank of Amsterdam* trafficks in some *Proportion*, as well as the other *Banks* of *Europe*; but this can be no just Cause of *Discredit*, because the Money is advanced upon a real Security; for the *Lombard* takes Care to lend sufficiently within the *intrinsick* Value of the *Pawn*, and the Interest is not suffered to accumulate. Thus the late *ELECTOR* of *BAVARIA*'S *JEWELS*, that were pawned to the *Lombard* of *Amsterdam*, were more than once ordered for Sale, and would certainly have been disposed of, had not the Interest been discharged. Where the *Pawn* is very considerable, and a large Sum demanded, as in the Case of these *Jewels*, there is indeed some Reason to believe that the *Bank* both advances the Money, and draws the

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Interest, under the borrowed Name of the *Lombard*. Thus if a Merchant has a Commodity that is not perishable, such as *Tin*, or *Lead*, for which there may possibly be no immediate Demand, He may find the Means to have two Thirds of the Value advanced upon a very small Interest, which enables Him to wait for his Market. The Use and Advantage of such a Practice, especially in a *Trading Country*, is very obvious; but if We ask why the Conduct of the *Bank* in this Particular, instead of being made *public*, is kept *secret* and rendered *mysterious*; the true Answer, I believe would be, *That should the Proprietors of the TREASURE, lodged in the BANK of AMSTERDAM, come once certainly to know, that any Use was made of the Money there deposited, many of Them would be apt to think, They might as well employ It in the same Manner Themselves.*

As to the Government of the *Bank*, It is very solemn and regular. The whole City is bound to make good the *Money* there deposited, and the *Treasure* is secured under four different Locks, the *Keys* of which are kept by four of the principal Magistrates, one of whom is always the PRESIDENT BURGOMASTER for the Time being.

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The *Bank of Rotterdam* was erected in 1635, and the *Agio* there, is generally the same as at *Amsterdam*.

SARDAM, situated within a League of *Amsterdam*, is undoubtedly the greatest Magazine for *Timber* proper for Ship Building, in the World. The principal Inhabitants of this Village, are Merchants, who call Themselves *Boors* or *Pesants*, and under the awkward Dress, and seeming simplicity of Countrymen, conceal the utmost *Sagacity* and *Cunning*. They are most of Them extremely rich, and may be reckoned amongst the greatest *Bankers* in *Holland*. They deal very considerably in the Business of *Exchange*, and are very good Judges of It. Their Vanity however, is not less than their Wealth, and they take a peculiar Pleasure in letting you know, after their own Way, that They are worth Abundance of Money. Of This They give you many Instances in *Holland*, and it has been frequent with the *Boors* of *Sardam*, when Bills of Exchange for very large Sums have been brought to Them for Payment, to ask the Presenter, with that sort of Flegm which is peculiar to Them, *in what Specie he chose to receive his Money*. The rest of the Inhabitants are *Ship Carpenters*; and the whole Village is one continued Magazine of *Timber*. I know

not whether it will be worth our While to mention a Report which is very general in *Holland*, that the People of *Sardam*, are capable upon *three Months* notice, to launch a Ship every Day, from *four* to *five hundred Tuns*, for as long a Time as you please. This is believed to be true by a great many Persons in *Holland*, and I will not pretend to Judge how far They may be mistaken, or what those of *Sardam* are really able to do: If it be an Error, It certainly owes its Rise and Credit amongst Them, to the *natural Genius* and *Bent* of the People, and perhaps it would do more Hurt than Good to undeceive them.

ENCHUISEN, in *North Holland*, has its Share in the *East India Trade*; and is very considerable for the *Herring Fishery*, which has rendered It rich and opulent.

HORN, situated in the same Part of the *Province*, is famous for Its *Traffick* in *Cheese* of the Country, and has likewise its Share in the Trade to the *East-Indies*.

The BRILL, and *Helvoet-Sluice*, are the Sea-Ports of *Rotterdam*, and *Dort*. They are the *Keys* of *Holland*, and as such, are strongly fortified, and well Garisoned, Their principal Subsistence is the *Herring Fishery*,

Fishery, and they get considerably by *Passengers*, and *Traders* between *England* and *Holland*.

SCHEDAM, VLARDINGHEN, MAZELAND-SLUICE, and some other small Places, depend entirely on the *different Fisheries* already spoken of.



S E C T.



SECT III.
OF THE
Rise, Progress, Commerce,
AND
GOVERNMENT
OF THE
Dutch East-India Company.



HISTORIANS inform Us, that about three hundred Years before the Birth of our SAVIOUR, a Correspondence was opened between *Europe* and *India*. PTOLEMY II, then KING of EGYPT, contributed very much to

to establish an Intercourse between the Continents, by cutting a new Road thro' Part of his Country, from *Muris* on the *Red-Sea*, to *Copta* a Town situated on the Borders of the *Nile*. Egypt becoming afterwards a Province of the *Roman Empire*, by the prevailing Arms of AUGUSTUS, the ROMANS omitted nothing that might possibly facilitate and encrease the *European Commerce* with *India*, which continued to flourish in their Hands, till the Time of HERACLIUS.

'Twas then, that upon the Declension of the *Empire*, the ARABIANS, who were very well acquainted with the Profits arising from the *Indian Trade*, and had been hitherto subservient to the *Romans* in it, left nothing unattempted to make Themselves the entire Masters of so important a Commerce; and this they happily effected, establishing Colonies in *India*, where they propagated the *Mahometan Religion*, which it seems was suitable enough to the loose Temper of the Natives.

Whilst the *Arabians* were Masters of the Coast of *India*, the Commodities of that Country continued the same Course into *Europe*, by way of the *Red-Sea*, *Alexandria*, and the *Persian Gulph*, from whence they were transported in *Caravans* to the Sea-Ports of *Siria*, where they were bought by the
Italians,

Italians, and those that lay near the *Levant*, who afterwards dispersed them over *Europe*.

In this manner the *Indian Trade* was carried on by the Ports of the *Mediterranean*, till towards the End of the *fourteenth Century*, when the PORTUGUEZE to their immortal Glory, sailed round *Africa*, and arrived at *Calicut* a Town of the *East Indies*, in 1498.

The *Arabians*, who were very strong in *India*, did all they could to frustrate the Design of the new Comers, and hinder their settling in the Country. But the *Portugueze* were superior to all Obstacles, and with an Intrepidity, and Constancy that can never be sufficiently admired, they sustained the united Force of the *Arabians* and their *Indian Confederates*, upon whom they made several important Conquests, in which they fortified themselves so well, that at last They became absolute Masters of the Trade of those vast Eastern Regions, which they now diverted from its old Channel, of Grand *Cairo* and *Alexandria*, and transferred it to LISBON.

The Conquests of the PORTUGUEZE in *Asia* and *Africa*, will best appear, when we describe Those which the *Dutch* have since made upon Them in those Countries. In the mean Time, the *Portugueze* enjoyed the Effects of their Conquests for above an hundred Years without any Interruption, and the

the *Dutch*, as well as the other *European* People had all the rich Commodities of *India* directly from *Lisbon*, which now triumphed in the Ruin of *Alexandria* and *Cairo*, to the unspeakable Loss and Detriment of *VENICE*, and many other Parts of *ITALY*.

Upon this Footing the *European* Commerce to *India* rested, till the latter End of the *fifteenth Century*, when by the Death of *HENRY* the *CARDINAL KING* of *PORTUGAL*, that Kingdom became annexed to the *Crown* of *Spain*, and *PHILIP II*, being then at Variance with his *Netherland Subjects*, which ended in the Revolt of the *united Provinces*; prohibited their Trade to *LISBON*, and the rest of his Dominions; and thus the *Dutch* were laid under the Necessity of going Themselves to *India*, and bringing from thence the Commodities They had hitherto bought in *Portugal*.

This Enterprize however could not be so easily executed, as imagined. The *Portuguese*, and *Spaniards*, most inveterate enemies to the *Dutch*, were very powerful in the *Indies*: They had *Forts* and *Settlements*; They had formed *Alliances*; and the Natives, who for an hundred Years together, had been taught to consider Them as invincible, would not be easily induced to do any thing to disoblige Them; and besides all This,
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They had Numbers of *Men of War* continually cruising on the Coast, to hinder any Attempt that might be made from *Europe* to their Prejudice. The *Dutch* on the Contrary, were destitute of every Thing that could encourage Them. They were utter Strangers to those *vast Indian Seas* which they were to pass, and intirely ignorant of every Thing, except the Danger to which They exposed Themselves in the Undertaking. Yet in Spite of all This, They attempted and performed the Voyage. Their implacable *Hatred* of the *Spaniard*, the *Love* of *Liberty*, and *Thirst* of *Gain*, all provoked Them to the Enterprize; and in 1559, four Ships were fitted out for *India*, by a few Merchants of *Amsterdam* and *Zealand*, Three of which returned to *Holland* two Years afterwards; the Fourth having been lost by the Negligence of the Seamen.

Tho' the Adventurers made little or no Gain by this first Voyage, yet it served to convince Them the Attempt was not impracticable. They were encouraged to try their Fortunes again; and the second Voyage being attended with better Success, other Traders were induced to join Them, and thus by Degrees, *several Partnerships* were formed of Merchants trading to the
Indies,

Indies, which lasted 'till the Year 1602, when the STATES GENERAL united these several small Societies, into one Body, with a very ample Charter.

Such was the Rise of the present *Dutch East India Company*. The joint Stock of these *incorporated Merchants* amounted to about seven hundred and fifty thousand Pounds Sterling, which They managed so well, that in the Course of a few Years, They destroyed the Empire of the *Portuguese* in *India*, established Themselves on Its Ruins, and have since extended their Commerce to so great a Degree, that It has been for a long Series of Years, one of the best Supports of their own Country, as well as the Admiration and Envy of their Neighbours.

Their first Attempt was on the *Portuguese Fortresses* in the Island of AMBOINA, which they took, and it is to this Day one of their principal Governments in the *Indies*. This was followed by the Conquest of all the *MOLUCCA ISLANDS*, by which They became in a Manner absolute Masters of the *Spice Trade*, the richest and most important in the World. Their Success alarmed the Court of MADRID, and PHILIP III, who had now succeeded to the Crown of Spain, offered to acknowledge Them

Them a *free and independent People*, if They would abandon their Trade in the *East Indies*. But They had already tasted the Sweets of that Commerce, and chose to continue the *War* rather than part with it. Their Constancy had the desired Effect, and in 1609 *Spain*, concluded a Truce with Them for twelve Years, which was negotiated at the *Hague* by the *Spanish Ministers*, amongst whom was AMBROSE SPINOLA Himself, and it was expressly agreed, that the DUTCH should continue their Navigation and Commerce, to all the Places in the *East Indies* whither They had traded during the War.

In this Year They began to build the famous Town of BATAVIA, in the Isle of great Java, which They fortified very strongly, and made it their general Magazine, and the Seat of their Governour General. The new made Truce, was ill observed in the *Indies*. The SPANIARDS carried on the War there with as much Heat as ever, but the Dutch continued to be Successful, and in 1611 we find Them extending their Commerce into the remotest Parts of *India*, particularly to JAPAN, where they settled Themselves so effectually, that five Years afterwards, in 1616, They were the only European Nation who traded thither.

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The Truce expired in 1621, and the *War* was renewed with Vigour, both in *Europe* and the *Indies*. The *DUTCH* were successful in both the Continents, and whilst *Prince Maurice* was every where Victorious over the *Spaniard* at Home, the Arms of the *Company* were attended with a Torrent of Success in *India*, which lasted for 20 Years together, and in 1640, they took the important Town of *Molucca*, which made Them Masters of the most considerable *Streight* in *India*, and secured their Trade to *China*, and the *Molucca Islands*.

In this Year the *PORTUGUEZE* revolted from *Spain*, and crowned the *DUKE* of *BRAGANZA*, *KING* of *PORTUGAL*, who was acknowledged by all the *States* dependant on that Crown, in *Asia*, *Africa*, and *America*.

The *Portugueze*, had been hitherto at *War* with the *Dutch* as Subjects of *Spain*, but They had suffered too much, not to desire a Peace; and this Change in their Government, gave Them a fair Pretence to demand It. Accordingly the New *King* asked, and concluded a Truce with Them for ten Years, which was extended to all Places, both on this and the other Side the *Line*. But the *Dutch* did not observe their Treaty: They attacked and took *Gallo*, and
X *Columbo*,

Columbo, two important Places in the Isle of *Ceilan*, which made Them Masters of the whole Cinnamon Trade, and gave Them the Command of the Streights between *Ceilan* and *Cape Commorin*. The PORTUGUEZE having in vain demanded Satisfaction of the *Dutch* for this Infraction of the Truce, the *War* broke out again between the two Nations, and lasted sixteen Years, in which the *Portugueze* were successful in the *West-Indies*, where They recovered BRAZIL from the *West India Company* of *Holland*, but in the mean Time They lost almost All that They possessed in the *East-Indies*. The DUTCH took all their strong Places, and destroyed their Settlements, from the very Entrance into the *Indian-Seas* quite to SURAT; which struck such a Terror through that vast Country, that even GOA the Capital of the *Portugueze*, in *India*, was apprehensive of a Siege, and dreaded the Effects of It. The Loss of the Battle of *Dabuls*, in a Manner put an End to the Empire of the *Portugueze* in *India*; and their Allies the little *Indian Kings*, terrified with the Success of the *Dutch Arms*, left their old Friends, and put Themselves under the Protection of the *Company*.

It

It is extremely for the Honour of the *Dutch*, that in the very Heat of the *War*, they omitted nothing that might enlarge and facilitate their Commerce. Their Settlement at the CAPE of GOOD HOPE, is a Proof of this ; where there is now a large Town, with a strong *Fort* that commands the Road. This Place, which is situated in a pleasant Country, and a good Air, serves the *Dutch*, as *St. Helena*, does the *English*, for a Place of *Rendezvous* to their Ships, in their Passage to and from *India*, which are here supplied with Water and fresh Provisions.

In 1661 the *Dutch* took *Formosa* from the *Portuguese*, an Island situated between *China* and *Japan*, of great Importance to the Trade of those Empires. Both Sides were now weary of the *War*, and a Treaty of *Peace* was concluded between them at the *Hague*, under the Mediation of the King of *England*, by which the *United Provinces* formally relinquish'd BRAZIL to *Portugal*, for a Sum of Money, and some other Advantages, the principal of which was that the *Dutch* were to remain Masters of all they had taken from the *Portuguese* in the *East-Indies*. But Jealousies arising between the VICE-ROY of GOA, and the Company's Governour general, the *Peace* was not at all observed in *India* ; and in 1663, the *Dutch* took *Coulam*, Cana-
X 2 nor,

nor, Cochin, and Grandanor, which brought the whole Coast of Malabar into their Dependence. Several Indian Princes felt the Force of their Arms, as well as the Portuguese, and in 1669, the King of Macassar, who was the most powerful and resolute of all their Indian Enemies, was reduced to buy his Peace at the Price of several Fortresses, and of Macassar amongst the Rest, which made Them more than ever absolute Masters of the Spice Trade, which had sometimes been interrupted by the Incursions of the Macassarians. In this manner, they continued to conquer upon the Portuguese, till they left them only GOA, and DIU, which in all Probability will one Day or other fall into their Hands. In 1675 They seized upon St. Thomas on the Coast of Cormandel; in 1680 they got Possession of Japara, and Cheriban, in great JAVA; and two Years afterwards they seized the City of Bantam, whose Trade they suppressed, and transferred It to BATAVIA.

Thus by a long and surprizing Series of Success, they have established their own Empire in the *East-Indies*, by ruining that of the *Portuguese*; and now remain peaceable Possessors of *six* entire Provinces, erected into Governments, which are *Amboina, Banda, Malucca, Cormandel, Ternate, and Ceilan*, They have their Forts and Settlements in the Rest
of

of the *Spice Islands*; *Molucca*, *Java*, *Timor*, and *Solor*; and on the Coasts of *Malabar*, *Macassar*, *Sumatra*, *Surat*, *Bengal*, *Siam*, and *Japan*, &c.

The Trade carried on between these several Countries, and in general, from *Holland* to *India*, is what we are now to consider.

The three great Articles of a *Cargo* sent from *Holland* to the *East-Indies*, are *Bullion*, *Woollen Cloth*, and *Linnen*. The woollen Cloth is generally dyed *scarlet*, and the *Dutch* are very careful to imitate the *English* manner of *Package*, and other Marks used by Us, in order to preserve the Reputation which our Cloth formerly bore in those Parts of the *INDIES*, to which they now have an exclusive Trade. Besides these, they carry *Brandies*, *French Wines*, *Rhenish*, *Malaga*, *Hams*, *Beer*, and *Bisket*, but the principal Article is *BULLION*, of which however they send far less, in *Proportion*, than other Nations trading to the *Indies*; which is an Advantage they derive from their *Monopoly* of the *fine Spices*; Commodities that pass as *ready Money* in most Countries of *India*.

The Merchandizes brought from *India* to *Holland* may be distinguished under four Heads; *Spices* and *Druggs*; raw and woven *Silks*; *Cotton* in several Shapes; and *Metals*.

Under the Name of *Spices* are comprehended *Cloves*, *Cinnamon*, *Nutmeggs* and *Mace*, with

Pepper and Ginger. The four first are properly called *fine Spices*, and at present are only to be found, in those Countries which the *Dutch* are become absolute Masters of.

CLOVES, were formerly the Product of all the *Molucca Islands*, but now they are peculiar to *Amboina*, the Company having rooted up, and entirely destroyed all the Trees that grew in the other Islands; and to soften the Rigour of their Policy, they allow the *King of Ternate* a Pension of about five Thousand Pounds a Year, *by Way of Equivalent*. The first Fort the *Dutch* possessed in the *Indies*, was upon the Isle of *Ternate*. They assisted the *King* against the *Portugueze*, which procured them his Confidence; but they were no sooner firmly established, than they forced their Benefactor to submit to their Government. The *Dutch* tell you that the *Clove-Trees* of *Amboina*, are more than sufficient to supply all the Universe, and consequently they could not sell greater Quantities than they do, tho' the Cloves should be more plentiful. But should they suffer the Trees to spread over all the *Molucca Islands*, They would be more liable to fall into the Hands of another Nation, and consequently their Monopoly would be hazarded.

This

This *Island*, which the *Dutch* conquered from the *Portuguese*, was the Scene of a cruel Tragedy in the Year 1623, which is commonly called the MASSACRE of AMBOINA. The *Dutch* executed all the *English* that were upon the Island, under the Pretext of their being Accomplices in a Conspiracy, to kill the *Governour*, and seize the *Cittadel*; having first obliged Them by unheard of Tortures, to acknowledge the Design they were accused with. The Truth is, the *Hollander* had no mind the *English* should have any Share in the *Clove-Trees*, and the other *fine Spices*. A great Deal more might be said; but as the Matter has been compounded in public *Treaties*, (a) I shall only add, that 'tis possible we may also have forgiven the *Dutch*, but they will never believe we have.

There are two sorts of CINNAMON, *fine*, and *mild*; this Last is of far less Value than the Former, which is only to be found in the Isle of *Ceilan*, in a small Tract of forty or fifty Miles upon the Sea Coast, within the

(a) See the Treaty of Peace and Union between OLIVER CROMWELL as Protector of England, and the States General concluded at Westminster, Aprill 5th. 1654. Also the Treaty of Peace and Friendship between Charles II, and the said States, done at Westminster, Feb. 9th. 1673-4.

Command of the *Dutch Settlements* ; who take care to prevent the Encrease of the *Cinnamon-Trees* : and if we may believe *Monsieur Huet*, they were at the Expence of taking *Cochim* from the *Portuguese*, the better to secure the Monopoly of this *Spice* ; for it seems the *Portuguese* found a great Deal of common or mild Cinnamon about *Cochim*, which they frequently put off for that of *Ceilan*, and by that Means hindred the *Hollanders* from setting what Price they pleased upon this Commodity.

NUTMEGGS and MACE grow only in the Isle of *Banda*, where the *Dutch* observe the same Policy as in *Ceilan* and *Ambonia*, omitting nothing that may hinder the spreading of these Trees, and confine the Trade to Themselves, which they have enjoyed without any Interruption, since the Year 1669, that they reduced the *King of Macassar*, who being a near Neighbour to this *Island*, his Subjects used to take off great Quantities of *Mace* and *Nutmeggs*, which they sold afterwards to the *English* and *Portuguese* at an under Rate ; and by that Means very much lessened the Gains of the *Company*. But amongst other hard Conditions imposed on this *Prince*, they obliged him to drive the *Portuguese* entirely out of his Country, and refuse the Use of his Sea-Ports to all European Vessels except their

their own: by which they have effectually secured this Trade to the Exclusion of all other Nations.

PEPPER is distinguished into large and small. The first is found on the Coast of *Malabar*, and in the Islands of *Sumatra* and *Java*. The latter is peculiar to *Achem* and *Bantam*. 'Tis pretended that the Consumption of *Pepper* is greater in *India* than in *Europe*, especially of the small Kind; the *Indians* and *Mahometans* putting it whole into their Dishes, or at most a little bruised, without reducing it to Powder; and 'tis thought to be more wholesome in those sultry Regions, than in colder and more temperate Climates. There is no Commodity that has a more current Vent in the *Indies*, than *Pepper*; and accordingly the *Monopoly* of this Spice has been the constant Object of the *Dutch Company*: But they have been always strongly opposed by the *English*, who hitherto continue to preserve their Share in this Branch of Trade, in common with the *Hollander*, and the *Portuguese*. GINGER is the Root of a Tree resembling that of the *Rose*: We are told it grows in greatest Plenty about *Malabar*, a Town in the *Mogul's* Country, from whence it is chiefly exported, and has a general Consumption in *India*, as well as the *Northern Parts of Europe*, which take off very large Quantities.

TEA

TEA, which for its Universality, may be placed at the Head of the Druggs, that are brought from *India*; is no more than the Leaves of a Tree, about twelve or fourteen Foot high, gathered in the *Spring*, and dried in Copper Pans over the *Fire*, or in the *Sun*, 'till they shrink up to the Size in which we see them. CHINA produces a great Deal, but the best is thought to grow in *Japan*, and from these Countries the *Dutch* furnish Themselves with all they bring from *India*. INDIGO and SALTPETRE, which are two very considerable Articles in the Trade of the Company, are both the Product of the *Mogul's Country*; and of the Province of *Agra*, in the Kingdom of *Golconda*. We are told that *Indigo* is made of the Leaves of a Plant resembling *Hemp*, which after being rotted in Water, are wrought into a Substance, of the consistency of *Clay*, which as soon as dried becomes *Indigo*. The *Dutch* bring Home every Year about *six Thousand Weight* of this Drugg, which they distribute afterwards through all the North Parts of *Europe*. SALTPETRE is also brought from *India* to *Holland* in excessive Quantities, and is there made into *Gunpowder*. BENGAL affords the Company a vast Quantity of coarse *Sugar*, which when brought to *Holland* is refined, and sold to all the neighbouring Countries

tries, with a very considerable Profit. LACCA, the Production of an *Indian Pismire*, is a Kind of Gum said to be made by that *Insect*, in the same manner that *Bees* produce *Honey*. There are two Kinds of this Drugg, black and red, but the latter is in greatest Plenty ; and 'tis from this sort that the *Indians* extract that lively *Red*, with which they stain their Silks and Callicoes, in that beautiful manner which so much exceeds our Imitation. This Drugg is produced in *Pegu*, *Afen*, *Bengal*, *Guzoratte*, and several other Parts of *India*. The *Hollanders* pay about ten *Stivers* a Pound for it in those Countries : and *Monsieur Huet* charges them with mixing it up with *Rosin*, and afterwards selling it in *Europe*, at ten *Stivers per Ounce* ; so that their Gain is hardly to be computed. RHUBARB and MUSK are found in several Parts of *India* ; but no wherein so great Perfection, as in *Bouton* a Kingdom situated between the *Great Mogul's Country*, and *Tartary* ; from whence they are fetched by the People of *Bengal*, and other Merchants of *Asia*, who sell them to the *Dutch*. To these Druggs we must add *Ambergreese*, *Camphire*, *Benzoin*, *Borax* and *Bezoar* ; with several sorts of Wood, as *Aquila*, *Siampan* or *Brazil*, *Lignum*, *Aloes*, *Rosewood*, *Sindal*, *Ebony*, *Calambour*, *Catatour* and *Cocoa*, all which are the Product
of

of the *Indies*, and are brought to *Holland* in great Quantities, from whence They are again distributed over *Europe*, with a very extraordinary Profit.

The Productions of *ARABIA*, which the *Dutch* fetch from *Mocoa* on the *Red-Sea*, and the other *Arabian Ports*, are *Frankincense*, *Mirb*, *Mannah*, *Balm*, *Aloes*, *Dragons Blood*, *Coffee*, and several Kinds of *Gums*.

The Commerce of *PERSIA* is carried on by the Port of *Surat*. That Part of it under the great *Mogul*, affords vast Quantities of all Sorts of *Silk*, *Indigo*, *Saltpetre*, *Lacca*, *Agates*, and *Ginger*. *Silk* is the chief Commodity of the Rest of *Persia*, which produces likewise a small Quantity of *fine Wool*, *Pearls*, *Turquois Stones*, and *oriental Agates*. *BENGAL* one of the most fruitful Provinces of *India*, in Subjection to the great *Mogul*, affords *Indigo*, *Saltpetre*, and *Sugar* in the greatest Plenty; and the best *Silk* of the *Indies*, which the *Dutch* take off in prodigious Quantities. To these we may add *Diamonds*, and the several Commodities produced in the Kingdom of *Bouton*, which are fetched from thence by the Merchants of *Bengal*.

The Country from *SURAT* to *CAPE COMORIN*, which includes the Coast of *Malabar*, abounds with *Pepper*.

COR-

CORMANDEL, and GOLCONDA, afford *Cotton, Calicoes, Chintzes, Indigo, Bezoar, and yellow Diamonds.*

PEGU yields *Lacca*, and Metals of several Sorts, *Gold, Silver, Rubies, Sapphires, Topazes, Hyacinths and Amethysts.*

SIAM, produces *Rice, Elephant's Teeth, Tin, Lead, Siampan Wood, and Deer Skins, Gold, and China.*

JOR, LIGOR, JAMBI, QUEDA, PERA, and SUMATRA, &c. all Places bordering upon the Streights of MALACCA, afford *Tin and Lead.*

Silk, Musk, and Lignum Aloes, are the Produce of the Kingdom of TONQUIN.

CHINA which has always been esteemed the richest Country of INDIA, produces *woven and raw Silk of all Kinds; Cotton, Calicoes, Camblets, and Hemp; Gold, Tin, Copper, Steel, and Iron, precious Stones of several Sorts; Lapis Lazuli, and Marble; Aquila, and Ebony or Brazil Wood; Tea, Sugar, Musk, Quick-Silver, China-Roots, Rhubarb, Pale and brown Amber, Porcelain, fine Cabinets, and many other particulars, which It would be tedious to enumerate.*

SILVER and COPPER are the principal Commodities brought from JAPAN: To which we may add *Tea*, and the *Wood* which bears

bears the Name of that Country made into fine Cabinets, and Works of several Shapes.

SUMATRA, one of the most considerable Islands of the *Indies*, is divided into small Sovereignties, and produces *Pepper*, *Gold-Dust*, *Camphire*, and *Benzoin*. The *Dutch* have found Means to make Themselves so formidable to the little *Princes* of the *Island*, that *They* have engaged *Them* by *Treaty* to sell their *Merchandize* to no other *Nation*.

The delightful *Isle* of great *Java* is the Center of the *Dutch* Commerce, and the Seat of their Capital in *India*. The principal Commodity of the *Island* is *Pepper*: *Cinnamon*, and *Ginger* likewise grow here, and of late, the *Dutch* have planted *Coffee* with good Success. *Java* is one of the most fertile and pleasant Countries of *India*; Its Plains are watered with Rivers, whose Banks are covered with *Cocoas*, and other Fruit Trees, that wear a perpetual Verdure, and screen the Traveller from the Sun, at the same Time that their Productions afford Him a most agreeable Refreshment. *Rice* grows here in great Quantities; *Beef*, *Pork*, *Fowls*, and *Pidgeons* are in Plenty, and *Mutton* is only scarce from the extream Fertility of the Soil, which affords so luxuriant a Pasture that the *Sheep* feed 'till they burst. 'Tis said the *Vine* bears seven
seven

seven Times in two Years, but the Grape affords no Wine. Nature by precipitating the Birth, destroys maturity. Formerly there was a great Number of Cities in the Isle of *Java*, governed by their several Kings, but those who had the Misfortune to be situated near *Batavia*, were gradually swallowed up, by the growing Power of the *Dutch*, and of such as lay farther off, some have totally lost their Liberty, and others in Part. The most powerful of these Princes were the Kings of *Mataram*, *Japara*, *Bantam*, and *Jacatra*. The former, who pretends to be *Emperor* of the Island, retains his Liberty from the strong Situation of his Capital *Mataram*, which lies in a vast Plain, encompassed with prodigious Mountains, covered with thick Woods, thro' which the Passages are so narrow, that They cannot be forced. *Japara* is subject to the *Dutch* Government, but retains a considerable Share of her antient Commerce. *Bantam* which was one of the most powerful Sovereignities of the Island, is entirely reduced to the Subjection of the *Hollanders*, and its Trade, as I have observed above, is transfered to *Batavia*. Originally, the *Portuguese* and *English* had considerable Settlements in this City, and interfered very much with the Trade

Trade of the Company. But the *Dutch* took the Opportunity of a *Civil War*, and by supporting the Son of the King of Bantam in a Revolt against his Father, They at last made Themselves Masters of the City and its Commerce. Their Competitors the *English* and *Portuguese* were immediately expelled, and the People of Bantam are to this Day the Slaves of the *Dutch Company*, whom They furnish with an immense Quantity of *Pepper*. As for *Jacatra*, the very Name of it is now extinguished, and sunk in that of *Batavia*. The *Hollanders* at first desired Leave to build a Fort, for the security of their Merchandize; but having in Process of Time made Themselves Masters of *Jacatra*, They destroyed the old Town and built their *Batavia* upon its Ruins. This is now one of the finest Cities in the *Indies*. Through every Street of the Town runs a Canal, that is fed by the River *Jacatra*, which still retains its old Name. These Canals are bordered with Trees that are perpetually green, and the excessive Heat is allayed by a *Sea Breeze* which rises every Day at Ten in the Morning, and reigns 'till the same Hour at Night, when it gives place to a gentle Gale from the Land; so that the natural Day, is equally divided between two friendly Winds, one
of

of which serves to bring all Manner of small Vessels into the City, and the other to carry Them away, as soon as They are unloaded. As they are not exposed to *Hurricanes*, the Houses are built extreamly high, which gives the City an Air of Magnificence. There are Numbers of different Nations to be found at *Batavia*, as well of the eastern as western World. The *Roman Catholics* enjoy a Liberty of Conscience there, as in *Holland*. The *CHINESE*, who alone are computed to be four or five Thousand, inhabit a Suburb by Themselves, where They have their *PAGODE* and their Burying Places. Amongst a great Number of Churches, there is one for the Reformed *Indians*, where the Service is performed in their own Language. Of these, the Females are the most numerous, which proceeds from a *Law* that obliges the Women who marry *Europeans*, to turn *Christians*; but the same Law does not bind the Men, or rather they are not permitted to marry *European Women*. *Batavia*, is the general Magazine of the Company, as well for *European* as *Indian* Commodities. The Road is good and commanded by a *Fort*, flanked with four *Bastions*, and lined with *Free-Stone*.

BORNEO, is universally agreed to be the largest Island in the *Indies*, and its Inhabitants

tants the most treacherous According to *Monsieur Huet*, They have more than once insulted the Settlement which the *Dutch* formerly had there, for which Reason They have been permitted to bring the Commodities of their Country to *Batavia*, the principal of which are *Diamonds* and *Camphire*.

MACASSAR, an Isle divided amongst several petty *Kings*, of whom, He who bears the Name of the Island, was formerly very formidable to the *Dutch*, affords great Quantities of *Pepper*, *Sandal*, and *Siampan Wood*; *Gold-Dust*, and *Tortoiseshell*. The *Dutch* maintain a considerable Garrison in the Fort of *Macassar*, which is a Port of extrem *Consequence* to their *Spice Trade*.

Such are the Productions of those extensive Regions, a great Part of which are in the immediate Dependance, or under the Influence of the *Dutch East-India Company*. Prodigious Quantities of the Commodities I have mentioned, are yearly transported from *India* to *Holland*, by a Fleet of about twenty seven Ships; but we are not to imagine that so rich a Return is purchased by the Cargo which the Company sends annually from *Europe* to the *Indies*. Their SPICES are the true Basis of all their mighty Traffick, and the Grandeur of the Company; and to this we may add, that
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the *Dutch* are in the *Indies*, what we find Them in *Europe*, the *Porters* or *Carriers* of other People, and They take Care to be very well paid for their Labour. With their *Spices* alone, which come so cheap to Them, They purchase all the rich Productions of *Arabia*. They also send vast Quantities to the *Mogul's* Country, *Bengal* and *Persia*; whither they bring likewise, the *Copper*, *Camphire*, *Tortoiseshell*, *Vermillion*, *Orchalm*, *Tin*, *Benzoin*, and other Commodities, which They buy up in different Parts of the *Indies*, and exchange against the Productions of these Countries.

Thus to *CORMANDEL* and *GOLCONDA*, they send their *Spices*, with the *Copper* they buy at *Japan*; *Malacca Tin*, *Gold Oar* of the Isle of *Sumatra*, *Quick-Silver*, *Elephant's Teeth*, *Camphire*, *Vermillion*, *Siampar* and *Sandal Wood*.

To *PEGU*, *SIAM*, and *MALACCA*, They bring their *SPICES*. *Linnen* of all Kinds, *Cloath*, *Serges*, *Tammies*, *Elephant's Teeth*, *Sandal Wood*, red and white *Coral*, *Amber* and *Silver*: and to *JAPAN*, they carry the Commodities purchased in *CHINA*, with which, and their *Spices*, They purchase the *SILVER* and *COPPER* of that Country.

After this View of the extensive Commerce carried on by the *Dutch* in the *East-Indies*; It is our present Business to examine in what

manner and by whom the Affairs of the *Company* are governed.

The *Directors* of the *Company* form six different Assemblies; five of which are established in the Province of *Holland*, and one in *Zealand*. These are held at *Amsterdam*, *Rotterdam*, *Delft*, *Horn*, *Enchuisen*, and at *Middleborough*: In each of which Places, the *Company* has a Magazine, where the Goods brought from *India*, are laid up in the following Proportions. *Amsterdam* receives one Half; *Middleborough* one Fourth; and the other Towns have the remaining *Fourth* amongst Them; at each of which Places there are *public Sales* twice a Year by Order of the *Directors*. Out of these several Courts, is formed another, called the ASSEMBLY of SEVENTEEN, to which *Amsterdam* nominates *Eight* Deputies: *Middleborough* Four; each of the other Chambers one; and the Seventeenth is deputed by all the Courts alternatively. To this Assembly is deferred the Care of the most important Affairs of the *Company*. Every Thing that relates to *Shipping*, *public Sales*, *Dividends*, the *Nomination of the Governour General in the Indies*, the *Director General*, *Major General*, *Admirals*, and other principal Officers, is here determined by a Plurality of Voices; so that the Town of *Amsterdam*, which names eight of the *Directors* out of seventeen, has only one Voice
to

to gain, in order to dispose absolutely of all the most important Interests of the Company.

This Court is held two or three times a Year, most commonly at *Amsterdam*; and when the *States General* have any Thing before Them, relating to the *East-India Company*, The Assembly deutes some of her Members to confer with Them. All *By-Laws* for the Regulation of Trade in the *Indies*, are enacted by this Court; of which we shall be more particular in the *Sequel*, when we come to consider the Interests of *Great Britain*, as they may interfere with those of the *United Provinces*. The Supreme Direction of the Company's Affairs in the *Indies*, is committed by this Assembly, to the Council of State at *Batavia*; consisting of the *Governour General*, who is *President* of the Council, with a double Voice; six *Councillors* in ordinary, and so many extraordinary, as the Assembly of seventeen think fit to direct. But when the *Governour* and the six ordinary *Councillors* are all present, then the extraordinary have only a Right to debate without voting. The *Governour General* is chosen for three Years; but He is usually continued for Life. The Directors know very well their *Governour General* must get Money: but it would cost the Company too much to have a fresh Estate made upon them

them every three Years, which is the true Reason why they continue their *Governour*, whose Fortune being once made, he grows less rapacious. This *Officer* is *Generalissimo*, and *High Admiral*, on the other Side the *Cape of good Hope*; and has his subordinate Officers, the *Major General*, and inferior *Admirals*. Indeed, if we only abate his Dependence on the *Company*, who may revoke his Commission at Pleasure, his Authority in the *Indies*, far exceeds that which the *Princes of Orange* exercised formerly as *Stadtholders* of the *United Provinces*; for the *Stadtholder*, as we have seen, can neither make *Peace* nor *War*, levy *Forces*, besiege a *Town*, or invade an *Enemy's Country*, without the expresse Consent of the *States*: but the *Governour General* may do all these even against the Opinion of the *Council*. Indeed, if the Success be not favourable, He runs the Hazard of his Head, if He should be disavowed by his Principals. But it seldom happens that He meets with any Opposition from the Councillors, who are apt enough to ply under so ample an Authority as is annexed to his Office. Of this there was an Example in *Governour Spelman*, who entered into *Treaties*, declared *War*, made *Peace*, and disposed of every Thing after his own Way, without any Controul. The *Governour General* represents the Dignity,
and

and we may almost say the *Sovereignty* of the *Company*. His *Court* and *Equipage* are magnificent: He is attended upon all Occasions with *Horse* and *Foot Guards*: He gives Audience to *Embassadors* of the *Indian Princes*, with the utmost Splendour and Ceremony; and acts in all Respects like a great and *Sovereign Prince*, at the Head of large and powerful *Territories*. The *Major General* is the second Person in the *Indies*, and commands all the Forces under the *Governour*. The *Director General* is the second Person of the *Council of State*, and superintends all the Affairs of Commerce. When the *Governour*, or any other Member of the *Council* dies, it depends on the Rest of the *Councillors*, to fill up the Vacancy by *Election*; which must be confirmed by the Assembly of *seventeen*.

The *COMPANY* maintains about *twelve Thousand* regular Troops in the *Indies*, and 'tis said, that in their several Governments and Dependancies, they have above a *hundred Thousand* of the *Natives* able to bear Arms, who are at their Devotion, and upon Occasion are joined to their regular Troops. The *COMPANY's* naval Force in *Europe* and the *Indies*, may together consist of about *sixty* Sail of Ships, fit for Service, from *thirty* to *sixty Guns*; which may be indifferently employed, either as *Men of War*, or *Merchant Men*.

It will be very easily concluded from what has been said, that the *Indian Trade*, as managed by the *Dutch*, must bring in immense Treasures 'Tis certain that the yearly Return from *India* to *Holland*, amounts to about *two Millions Sterling*; and some pretend to say, that the general *Profits* of the *Company*, are not less than *five Millions Sterling per Annum*, which is no more than is requisite to answer the yearly *Dividend* made to the *Sharrers*, and the exorbitant *Expences* the *Company* is at, both in *Europe* and the *Indies*, in *Salaries* to the *Governours*, *Commissioners* and *Directors*; in *Wages* to *Officers*, *Soldiers*, and *Seamen*; and in the *Charge* of *Fortifications*, *Ammunition*, and the *building*, *rigging*, *victualling* and *repairing* so many *Ships*. To which we must add, the *Rewards* and *Presents* made by the *Company* to their *Allies*, which are often of an immense *Value*.

There is another Board established at *Batavia*, by the *Assembly* of *seventeen*, called the *high Court of Justice*, which hears and determines all *Causes*, both *civil* and *criminal*, in the last *Resort*. *Appeals* lie to this Board, from the *Judgment* of all the other *Courts of Justice* in the several *Governments*: and she has *Power* to try the *Governour General* Himself, and condemn Him to *Death*, if found guilty of *Treason*. One would naturally imagine,

imagine, that *Appeals* should lie from the Sentence of this Court, either to the *Assembly of seventeen*, or to the *General Company*: but They have thought fit for several political Reasons, to authorise the *high Court of Batavia*, to give Judgment definitively, in all Processes whatsoever, from which in Effect there lies no Appeal, except to the *States General* Themselves in their legislative Capacity. I shall have Occasion in the Sequel, to insert the *Placart* that is every Year published at *Batavia*; which will still give a further Light into the Manner in which the *Company's* Affairs are governed. The *Governours* of the *six Provinces* above-mentioned, with Him of the *Cape of Good Hope*, and all other *Settlements* or *Commanderies*, are chosen by the *Assembly of seventeen*; to whom they are obliged to return annually, exact Accounts of every Thing necessary for the *Company* to be apprized of, for the better Government of their Affairs.

Thus we have taken a View of the *Dutch East-India Company*, in its Rise, Progress, Commerce, and Government. We have traced It from a *feeble Infancy*, to a State of Strength and Maturity; and perhaps there is no Subject in the World, that affords so noble and convincing an Example, of the Force and Power of *Commerce*, when under a wise and constant Direction.

S E C T.



SECT IV.

OF THE

Dutch West-India Company.



THE PORTUGUESE first discovered *America*, in their Passage to the *East-Indies*, where They afterwards built several Forts, and were the only *European* People, who for many Years had any Settlement upon the Western Coast of this Continent, and in the adjacent Islands. The *Dutch* then fetched the Product of those Countries from *Lisbon*; but when *Philip II*, succeeded to the *Crown of Portugal*, and prohibited all Intercourse between that Nation and the *Netherlands*, The *Dutch*, as we have already observed, were then put upon the Necessity of trading directly to the *Indies*;

Indies ; and the Success that attended those who undertook the Voyage to *East-India*, encouraged others to attempt a Commerce with *Africa*, and *America*. Their first Settlement was at *Moure*, on the *Gold Coast*, where They built a Fort, and improved their Trade so well, that in 1609 we find above a hundred Vessels employed directly between *Holland*, and the *Gold Coast*, *America*, and the *Cape de Verde Islands*. This Success animated Them with the Desire of forming a *West-India Company* in *Holland*: but this Design was traversed by Those that desired *Peace* with *Spain*, who prevented the Execution of it for twelve Years; till in 1621, when the Truce betwixt the *Spaniards* and *Dutch* expired, the *States General* then incorporated a Body of *Merchants*, trading to the *West-Indies*, with a very ample Charter; upon the Model of that already granted to the *East-India Company*. By this Charter the *States* gave Them an *exclusive Trade* for twenty four Years, from the *Tropick of Cancer*, to the *Cape of Good Hope*, and through all *America*, from the *Streights of Magellan* to *New-found-Land*. The new Company's Fund was about seven hundred Thousand Pounds Sterling, divided into nine Shares; and the Government of its Affairs was reposed in five different Chambers. That of *Amsterdam*, which
had

had *four Shares*, was composed of twenty Directors: *Zealand* had *two Shares*, and *twelve Directors*; and the other Chambers of the *Maese*, *North-Holland*, and *Groninghen* had each *one Share*, and fourteen *Directors*. Out of these several Chambers, was formed Another, consisting of *Eight Deputies* of *Amsterdam*; Four of *Zealand*, and Two for each of the other Chambers, which with a *Deputy* from the *States General*, composed an Assembly of *nineteen*, who had the supream Direction of Affairs.

Monsieur Basnage gives BARNEVELDT the Honour of projecting this Company, whose Attempts were so successful in the Beginning, that the *Dutch* entertained Hopes of becoming Masters of all *South America*; and of making their Trade thither as advantageous as that to the *East-Indies*. In 1636 the new Company, had conquered the best Part of *Brazil*, where they settled a very great Trade, to the unspeakable Damage of the *Portuguese* and *Spaniards*. In the same Year They sent PRINCE MAURICE of NASSAU thither, in Quality of Governour General, and invested Him with an Authority equal to that of the Governour General in the *East-Indies*. During Eight Years that this Lord resided at *Brazil*, the Affairs of the Company continued to prosper, and He annexed to their former
Con-

Conquests, Those of *Siara*, *Siriga*, and *Mara-gan*. In the same Manner They became Masters of *St. George de las Minas*, *St. Paul de la Conde*, and the *Island of St. Thomas* on the Coast of *Africa*. If we may believe the Registers of the Company, They fitted out between the Years 1623 and 1636, no less than eight hundred Vessels either for War or Traffick, the Expence of which, amounted to near four millions five hundred thousand Pounds Sterling; and they took from the Enemy in that Time, five hundred and forty five Vessels, whose Cargoes amounted to near six Millions, to which they add three Millions more, for the Plunder and Booty they obtained from the *Portugueze*, in their several Conquests. The Trade they carried on, to the different Places of their Dependance, and the other Parts of *Africa* and *America*, was extreamly advantageous, and consisted in an Exchange of Trifles, or Merchandize of little Estimation, for the richest and most valuable Commodities. Corals, Chrystal, Lace, old Linnen, and strong Waters, were thought an Equivalent by the Inhabitants of *Africa* and *America*, for Gold, Ivory, Hides, and Gumms.

But this Prosperity was short lived. In 1641, the *States General*, having concluded a Truce with the *Portugueze*, who were no longer Subjects to SPAIN; this stopped the Pro-

Progress of the *Company's Arms* in BRAZIL, upon which, They recalled their *General PRINCE MAURICE*; and Dissentions afterwards arising, between some considerable Persons in the *Company*, about the Government of BRAZIL, such Disorders succeeded in the Direction of Affairs, as were attended with the most fatal Consequences. The *Portuguese* were encouraged to renew the War, in which They were now so Successful, that besides all that the *Company* possessed in BRAZIL, they re-took the Island of SAINT-THOMAS, with the Town of SAINT-PAUL, and would probably have driven the *Dutch* entirely out of those Countries, had not the War been put an end to in 1661, by the Mediation of our KING CHARLES II, who was then about Marrying the INFANTA of PORTUGAL. By this Treaty, the *Dutch* relinquished their Pretentions to BRAZIL, in Consideration of a sum of Money paid Them by the *Portuguese*, and the liberty of trading thither, and to the other Ports in the *Portuguese* Dependence, as Friends. But the *Company* was so reduced, by the Expences of the War, that They who had been in a manner equal in Power, and Opulence, to the *East-India Company*, now became little better than Bankrupts: And in 1674, the *States General* were obliged, in order

order to preserve the Trade of AFRICA, to annihilate the *Old Company*, and form a new One of the *old Sharers*, and their *Creditors*, whose Fund amounted to about *Six Hundred Thousand Pounds Sterling*. In consequence of this, the number of *Directors* was lessened ; the Chamber of *Amsterdam* was reduced to *ten* ; that of *Zealand* to the same Number ; the *Maese* to *seven* ; the Number remained undetermined in *North-Holland*, and for the Chamber of *Groninghen*, It was left to the *States* of the *Province*, to constitute so many as They thought fit, for the common Good and Advantage of the Company. Lastly, the Assembly of *Nineteen*, which had the supream Direction of the Company's Affairs, was reduced to *Ten*. Upon this new Establishment, the Company continued its Trade to very good Advantage. They still retained their Settlements on the *Gold Coast*, and at *Cape Verde* ; and in a little time after their Loss of *Brazil*, they discovered and possessed themselves of the Islands of *Tobago* and *Curazoe* ; from the latter of which, situated near *Carthage*, the *Dutch* now carry on a very advantageous Trade to *New-Spain*, notwithstanding the Prohibitions of the Court of *MADRID*.

To the Commodities already said to be brought from those Countries to *Holland*,
We

We must add *Sugar* and *Tobacco*; Productions, that give Motion to another very beneficial Commerce, which is that of *Slaves*, in which the *Dutch* are considerable Dealers. The *Portuguese* take off great Numbers from Them, to cultivate Their Plantations in *Brazil*, and other Parts of the *Indies*. The Negroes of *Angola* are thought to be the strongest, and most serviceable, and without the Labour of these unhappy Creatures, it would be impossible to cultivate the Soil of those *Scorching Regions*.



SECT



SECT. V.

OF THE

DUTCH TRADE

To the Northern Parts of

EUROPE.



THE HANSE TOWNS, had for many Years together, engrossed all the Commerce of the *North*; when in the Beginning of the fourteenth Century, the KING of DENMARK, ERIC VIII, with whom They were then at War, called in the *Zealanders* to his Assistance, encouraging Them to trade to the *Baltick*; and from this Time the *Dutch* began to encroach upon the Commerce of the *Hans Towns*, which by Degrees

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grees They have so effectually destroyed, either by Force or Treaty, that for many Years past, that Confederacy, which was once so potent and formidable, has been in a Manner annihilated, and now subsists only in the Name. It would be hard to say, whether the *Fisheries*, the *Indian Trade*, or the *Northern Commerce*, which we are now to describe, be of most Importance to the *Dutch*; but 'tis certain they are all equally necessary for the support of each other; and this we shall be better convinced of, when we see the *Herrings* and *Spices* sent in Quantities to the *North*, and there trucked against such Commodities as are absolutely necessary for the Support of the *Dutch Navigation*, and the Employment and Subsistence of their People.

The *Trade* the *DUTCH* drive with *NORWAY* is of great Importance to both Nations. They bring from thence *Masts*, and other Kinds of *Timber*; *Copper*, *Iron*, *Tar*, *Pitch*, *Firrs*, *Buck-skins*, *Ashes*, *Butter*, *Tallow*, and dry'd *Salmon*: To purchase which, They carry a great Quantity of *Spices*, *Salt*, *Canary*, *Brandy*, and *Vinegar*; Productions of *Southern Climates*, that are very much wanted in *Norway*. *TOBACCO*, bought originally from the *English*, and wrought up in *Holland*, with *Woollen Cloath*, and other
Home

Home Manufactures, make the rest of the Cargo; But as the *Dutch* take off great Quantities of the *Norwegian* Commodities, and that *Luxury* has not yet infected *Norway*, the *Exports* of that Country, far exceed its *Imports*, and the Difference is paid in ready Money, so that the *Dutch* Trade is of the last Consequence to the People of *Norway*, as well as of very great Importance to the *Hollander*. This Commerce is thought to employ near *three hundred* Sail of *Dutch* Ships, from four to five hundred Tuns.

The Trade between *SWEDEN* and *Holland* is highly considerable, and beneficial to both Nations. *Copper, Iron, Lead, Pitch, Tar, Masts, and Planks*, are the Product of *Sweden*; of which the *Dutch* bring from thence very great Quantities, especially, *Copper* and *Iron*; and in Exchange They send *Spices, and Druggs, of all Kinds; Salt, Sugar, French Wine and Brandy; Linnen; wrought Silks* of several Sorts, and great Quantities of *Woollen Manufactures*.

The Trade of *DENMARK*, is very inconsiderable. I know of nothing exported at present from *Zealand*; but *Jutland* affords *Black Cattle*, which the *Dutch* take off in great Numbers, and fat them up in *Holland*.

POMERANIA, abounds in *Corn, Wooll, Skins, and Timber*. STETIN, the Capital of that Province, situated on the River *Oder*, is the principal Place of Commerce, as well for the Commodities of this Country, as of SILESIA, and other rich Provinces of Germany; which afford vast Quantities of *Wheat, and other Grain, Honey, Wax, Butter, Iron, Lead, Tin, Linnen, Wool, and Timber*: Most of which Particulars the *Dutch* purchase with their *Spices, and Herrings* of the first Season, *Wines, Cheese, Salt, and Tobacco, Woollen and Silken Manufactures*.

The same Commodities, and many others, as *Druggs* of all Kinds, *Sugar, Oil, Paper, Brandy, and dying Stuffs*, are sent by the *Dutch* to DANTZICK, where they are exchanged against the Productions of the fertile Kingdom of POLAND, and ROYAL PRUSSIA, subject to that Crown. These are *Grain* of all Kinds, which the *Dutch* take off from this famous Port in immense Quantities, *Iron, Lead, Copper, Quicksilver, Vitriol, Saltpetre, Sulphur, and Tellow Amber; Masts, and Planks; Hemp, and Flax; Pitch, Tar, Hides Furrs, and Wooll*.

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The DUCAL PRUSSIA, now subject to his MAJESTY of that Name, ELECTOR of BRANDENBURGH, is very fruitful in all Kinds of *Grain*, and particularly *Wheat*. The Commerce of this Country is carried on by *Coningsberg*, situated on the Mouth of the *Pregel*, where One likewise finds several Commodities of the great *Dutchy* of *Lithuania*, and some Parts of *Poland*; such as small *Oak* for Cooper's Work; *Leather*, *Furrs*, *Rice*, *Honey*, *Wax*, *Barley*, *Millet*, *Hemp*, and *Ashes*. The *Dutch* take off a-bundance of these Commodities, and hither They bring, *Spices*, *Wines*, *Druggs*, *Cheese*, *Salt*, *Tobacco*, *Iron*, *Lead*, *Tin*, and old *Dutch Dollars*.

The DUTCHY of COURLAND, has a considerable Trade with *Holland*, for *Linseed*, *Wheat* and *Timber*, which is carried on by the Two Sea-Ports of this Country, *Libaw* and *Memel*; and the *Dutch* bring hither the same Commodities as to *Prussia*.

LIVONIA, now subject to *Muscovy*, is naturally one of the most fertile Provinces of *Europe*, and the best situated to command the Trade of the BALTICK. *Revel*, *Riga*, *Narva*, and *Pernaw*, are the Sea-Ports of this Country, by which the whole Trade between *Europe* and *Russia*, was formerly carried

carried on: But several Things have concurred to destroy the Welfare of this Province, and frustrate the Advantages which It ought naturally to derive from Its Situation and Fertility. *War, Famine, and Pestilence*, have very much lessen'd the Number of Its Inhabitants; and *Archangel* having been discovered by the *English* about the Middle of the last *Century*, the *CZAR* omitted Nothing that might encourage Them to settle there, and from that Time the Trade of *Muscovy* was turned into a new Channel. *LIVONIA* was then subject to the Crown of *SWEDEN*; but the Fate of *War* having brought this Province under the Domination of the *Muscovites*, Its Commerce begins to revive, especially at *Riga*, from whence the *Dutch* fetch every Year vast Quantities of *Wheat* and other *Grain*, *Masts*, *Cooper's Wood*, *Oak*, and *Deals*; *Flax*, *Hemp*, and *Linseed*; *Honey*, *Wax*, and *Tallow*: To purchase which, They carry *Spices*, *Tobacco*, *Sugar*, *Salt*, *Paper*, *Iron-work*, and small *Wares*, with considerable Quantities of *Linnen* and *Woollen Manufactures*.

I have just now said, that the Trade between *EUROPE* and *MUSCOVY*, was formerly carried on by the Ports of *Livonia*, when upon settling an *English Factory* at *Archangel*, on very advantageous Terms, the
Course

Course of the *Russian Commerce* was immediately diverted from *Livonia*, to that Port; situated in the *White Sea*, near the River *DUINA*, which wathes the greatest Part of *Muscovy*.

The *Dutch* soon obtained Leave to trade to *Archangel* as well as the *English*, and notwithstanding our being first in Possession, in less than twenty Years after our Discovery of this Port, which was in 1653, They sent thither ten Ships for our One.

We have seen in our own Days the Commerce of *Muscovy* transferred from *Archangel* to *Petersburgh*, a Town situated at the utmost Extremity of the *Baltick*, and founded by the late *Emperor of Russia*, who has omitted Nothing to make It flourish, and it will probably one Day become the Capital of that vast *Empire*, as it is now the ordinary Residence of the Court.

The Trade carried on between *Muscovy* and *Holland* by this Port, is of the utmost Importance to both Nations. *Spices* pass like ready Money in *Muscovy*, and 'tis confidently affirmed, the *Dutch* export thither every Year near a thousand Bales of *Pepper* and *Nutmeggs* only; with large Quantities of the finer *Spices*, as well as *Druggs*, *dying Stuffs*, *Tobacco*, *French and Spanish Wines*, *Brandy*, *Oil*,
Z 4 *Vinegar*;

Vinegar, with the several Kinds of wet and dried Fruits of the Southern Climates, vast Quantities of Herrings, Linnen, and woollen Manufactures of the coarser Kind, Silks of all sorts and Colours ; Gold and Silver Brocades, rich Ribbands, Hats, Paper, Soap, Iron Work and small Wares. In Return for which They bring back Cables : Beaver and other Furrs: prodigious Quantities of Russia-Leather, dressed in a Manner peculiar to that Country, which they afterwards vend with very great Profit in Spain and Italy : abundance of excellent Masts, Hemp, and Flax, Pitch, Tar, Tallow and Ashes. Wax is another Russian Commodity, and the Dutch import incredible Quantities of It, which they refine in Holland and sell afterwards in the Roman Catholick Countries with an excessive Profit. The Article of Cavear deserves our Notice. This is no more than the Spawn of Sturgeon ordered in a particular Manner, by the Muscovites, and the Dutch take off large Quantities which they sell in Italy, to very great Advantage.

Upon the whole, it will be easily allowed that the Ballance of Trade is in the Favour of *Muscovy* ; notwithstanding the many Species of Goods the *Dutch* export thither ; for the Quantity of *Merchandize* they bring from *Russia*, is almost incredible, and the

Diffe-

Difference is paid in *Specie*, which the *Dutch* sufficiently re-imburse to Themselves, by the Gain they make upon the several *Russian Commodities*, which they re-export to the different Countries of *Europe*.



SECT



SECT. VI.
OF THE
DUTCH TRADE
TO
GERMANY,

by the RIVERS,

*Elbe, Weser, Rhine, Moselle,
Mein, and Maese.*



THE River ELBE, after having traversed the Kingdom of BOHEMIA, where it has its Source, and the Electorates of Saxony, Brandenburg, and Hanover, falls into the German Ocean, a little below *Hamburgh*; in which

which City, the DUTCH transact all their Commerce with those Parts of *Germany*, which are washed by this River. Hither they bring *Spices, Druggs, Herrings, Woollen and Silk Manufactures, small Wares, and Toys*: for which They have in *Exchange*, vast quantities of *Timber* for Shipping, *Wine, Corn, Brass-Wire, White Iron* from *Saxony*, and many other Commodities, peculiar to the *North*.

By the WESER they carry on the Trade of BREMEN, and several fertile *Provinces* of the *Lower Germany*, which furnish the best *Timber* of all the *North, Wheat, Wool, Metals* of several Kinds, and *Gum*: to purchase which, They send *woollen and Silk, Manufactures, Spices, Druggs, dying Stuffs, and small Wares*.

By the RHINE, and the Rivers that discharge Themselves into it, the *Dutch* carry on the most important Trade of *Germany*. This famous Stream is in a manner navigable for three hundred Leagues together, from SWITZERLAND, where it has its Rise, to the *Province of Holland*, where it disembogues it self into the Ocean.

At COBLENTZ, It receives the *Moselle*, which traversing *Lorraine* and the whole *Electorate of Triers*, falls into the *Rhine* at this Place, bringing with it vast Quantities of the *Wines* that grow on its own Banks, and
other

other Commodities, which are from thence sent down to *COLOGNE*, long since eminent for *Commerce*, and the Place of greatest Consideration on the *Rhine*. From hence the *Dutch* have *Wine* and *Timber*, *Iron*, *Cannon*, and *Bullets*; and hither they bring their own *Silk* and *Woollen Manufactures*, *Spices*, *Druggs*, *Herrings*, *Sugars*, *Cheese*, and many other Particulars.

Next to the *Moselle*, the *Mein* is the most considerable of those Rivers that feed the *Rhine*. This Stream, after traversing all *FRANCONIA*, one of the finest and most fertile *Provinces* of *Germany*, loses it self in the *Rhine*, near *MENTZ*, and brings with it the Commodities of *FRANKFORT* and *NUREMBERG*. These are *Copper*, *Iron*, several kinds of *Cutler's Ware*, and other Merchandize, which the *Dutch* purchase with their *Silk* and *Cloth*, their *Spices*, *Herrings*, *Druggs*, *dyeing Stuffs*, &c. And in this Manner, the Exchange is made with all the other Countries, situated on the *Rhine*, or on those Rivers that have a Communication with it.

By the *MAESE*, the *Dutch* carry on the Trade of *LIEGE*, *AIX-la-CHAPELLE*, and the circumjacent Parts of *Germany*. To *LIEGE*, they carry *Herrings*, *Spices*, *Druggs*, both for the *Apothecary* and *Painter*; great quantities of *Woollen Goods*, *Silks* of different

ferent Kinds, and several other *Manufactures*; in Exchange for which, They bring back a great deal of *Brass*, and *Copper-Work*, made at *Aix-la-Chapelle*; wrought *Steel* and *Iron* from *Liege*; *Muskets*, *Swords*, *Bullets*, *Bombs*, *Granadoes*, *Lead*, *Pit-Coal*, and *Slate*.

We may venture to decide, that the *Balance of Trade*, in all these different *Branches* of the *German Commerce*, is excessively in favour of the *Hollander*.



S E C T



S E C T. VII.

OF THE

DUTCH TRADE

TO THE

AUSTRIAN NETHERLANDS,

And the Southern Parts of

Europe, France, Spain, Portugal, Italy, and the Levant.



WE have seen above, in what Manner the vast Commerce once established in the *Low Countries*, now called the AUSTRIAN NETHERLANDS, was destroyed ; the *Restoration* of which, has hitherto been opposed with very

ry great Industry, and equal Success, by the *Hollander*, and particularly, by the People of *Amsterdam*, whose Commerce was in a great Measure founded on the ruin of *Antwerp*. The Trade the *Dutch* have carried on to these Countries, for about an hundred Years past, has been prodigiously in their own Favour, and very great Sums have been drawn from the *Netherlands*, to discharge the *Ballance* due to the *Hollander*, which will evidently appear, when we consider the Nature and Quantity, of the Merchandize, that these Countries exchange with each Other. From *Antwerp*, *Mechlin*, and *Brussels*, the *Dutch* bring *Lace*, *Thread*, and *Tapestry*, all very beautiful in their Kinds. At *GHENT*, they buy abundance of *Serges*, *Lawns*, *Cambricks*, *Diapers*, and other Sorts of *Linnen*. *BRUGES* affords the same Commodities, with exception to the *Serges*; but in the room of this Particular, we may reckon *Sheep's-Leather*, of which, there is a very large quantity dressed here, in great Perfection. *AUDENARD*, is particularly famous for *Tapestry*; and these are the principal Merchandizes which the *Dutch* import from that Part of the *Netherlands*, in subjection to the *Emperor* Countries, which ever since, and even before the Peace of *Munster*, have always taken off vast Quantities

Quantities of *Dutch Manufactures*, both *Silk* and *Woollen*, with the whole Product of the *Indies*, *Spices*, *Druggs*, *Tea*, and *Coffee*, *Muslin*, and all sorts of *Indian Stuffs*; a great Quantity of *Herrings*, and other Commodities.

We have lately seen an Attempt made by the present EMPEROR, to restore their long alienated Commerce, by granting a *Charter*, for establishing an *India Company* in the *Low Countries*; and were this to proceed, it must put a stop to the advantageous Trade the *Dutch* enjoy with the People of these Provinces, and be the Parent of many other Alterations in the Commerce and Interests of *Europe*. But this new Establishment, has met with so strong an Opposition from the Allies of *Hanover*, that we already see the Company's Trade to *India* suspended for seven Years; which, in all Probability, will be succeeded by an entire Annihilation. As This is yet undermined however, and as the *Ostend Company*, is still one of those Points, which employ the Politicks, of almost every Court of *Europe*. It may, perhaps, be neither impertinent, nor unuseful, in the sequel of this Discourse, to shew on one Hand, the Grounds upon which the *Emperor* pretends a Right to erect this new *India Company*; and on

on the other side, the Pretentions the *Dutch* make to the *Indian Trade*, exclusive of the People of the *Austrian Netherlands*; with the Consequences that will naturally arise from the Prosperity of the *New Company*, if it be suffered to continue, and the Influence it will have on the Affairs of *Europe*. All which, will naturally fall under our Enquiry, when we come to examine the Alliances of the *States General*.

The Trade the *DUTCH* have carried on with *FRANCE*, ever since the Rise of their *Republic*, has been highly considerable, and of great Importance to both Nations, but especially to *France*, from the prodigious Quantities of *french* Merchandize, which the *Dutch* stood in Need of, either for *Home Consumption*, or to carry on their Trade with other Nations. *Monsieur de Wit*, computes, that about the Year 1658, the *Dutch* paid the *French* annually, upwards of *Thirty Millions of Florins in ready Money*, over and above the *Exchange of Commodities*. And notwithstanding They have since set up several Manufactures, that were before peculiar to *France*, in which they have been very successful, and consequently, the Importation of several Species of *french* Merchandize into *Holland*, is extreamly diminished, yet, 'tis very certain, the Ballance still remains in Favour of the *French*. We have

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already

already taken Notice, that in the Year 1658, *Monsieur Boreel*, the *Dutch Ambassador* in *France*, convinced that Court, how important the *Dutch Trade* was to the *French Nation*. To do this, He prevailed with the united Body of Merchants at *Paris*, to make a Calculation of the several kinds of *French Commodities*; and what Quantities of Them were exported to *Holland*, which Mr. *Boreel* presented to the King, as follows.

1. In Velvets, Plush, Satins, Gold and Silver Stuffs, Tafetas, and other Silk Stuffs of *Tours*, and *Lions*, to the Value of *six millions of Livres*, and upwards. } 6000000
2. In Ribbons, Silk and Thread Laces, Buttons and Taggs, made at *Paris*, *Roan*, and the adjacent Towns, to the Value of *two Millions*. } 2000000
3. In Castors, and other Sorts of Hats, made at *Paris*, and *Roan*, to the Value of *one million five hundred thousand Livres*. } 1500000

4. In

4. In Plumes, Belts, Umbrellas, Masks, Head-Dresses, Looking-glasses, Gilt-frames, Watches, and several Kinds of Toys and Trinkets which the *French* term *Bijoux*, to the Value of *two Millions*. } 2000000
5. In Gloves, made at *Paris*, *Clermont*, *Vendosme*, and *Roan*, to the Value of *one million five hundred thousand Livres*. } 1500000
6. In Woollen-yarn spun, in *Picardy*, to the Value of *five hundred thousand Livres*. } 500000
7. In Paper of all Sorts, made in *Poitou*, *Champagne*, *Limosin*, *Auvergne*, and *Normandy*, to the Value of *two Millions*. } 2000000
8. In Pins and Needles, and in Ivory, Ebony, Box, and Horn Combs, made at *Paris*, and in *Normandy*, for *five hundred thousand Livres*. } 500000
9. In small Iron and Steel Wares, made at *Auvergne*, to the Value of *five hundred thousand Livres*. } 500000
10. In Sail Cloath from *Normandy* and *Brittany* for above *five Millions*. } 5000000

11. In Chamber Furniture of all Kinds; Beds, Matresses, Quilts, Blankets, Fringes, &c. for above <i>five Millions</i> .	}	5000000
12. In Wines of several Growths, for above <i>nine Millions</i> .	}	9000000
13. Brandy, Vinegar, and Sy- der, for above <i>two Millions</i> .	}	2000000
14. In Saffron, Soap, Honey, Almonds, Olives, Capers, Pruens, and other Fruit, to the Value of <i>two Millions</i> .	}	2000000
Total		39500000

To which must be added, *five or six hundred Ship Loads* of Salt, which the *Dutch* fetch every Year from *Rochel, Maran, Brouage*, and the Isles of *Oleron* and *Ree*.

It is undeniable, that at the Time of making this Calculation, the FRENCH were immense Gainers by their Commerce with HOLLAND; and tho' several of the above Manufactures are now made to good Perfection by the *Dutch*, yet the Importation of french Goods into *Holland* still continues to be very considerable. All the Particulars of the 4th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 12th, and 13th Articles, come thither in as great Quantities as ever, and considerable of all the Rest, even of Those which the *Hollanders* have most happily imitated.

The

The *Dutch* carry to FRANCE in their Turn, all Sorts of *Spices*, and *Druggs*; *dyeing Stuffs*, *Linnen* of several Kinds, *Steel*, *Copper*, white *Iron Wire*, *Arms*, *Gunpowder*, *Sulphur*, *Match*, *Russia-Leather*, and other *Northern Productions*; *Furrs*, *Hemp*, *Flax*, *Pitch* and *Tar*, *Masts*, *Planks*, and all other Sorts of *Timber*, both for *Shipping* and *Houses*; together with a considerable Quantity of *Herrings*, and other *Salt-Fish*, *Butter*, *Cheese*, *Tallow*, &c. yet all this does by no Means countervail, the vast Quantity of French Goods They import, and the Difference must be paid in *Money*; notwithstanding which, the *French Trade* is far from being destructive to the *Hollanders*, because the prodigious Quantity of Goods They import from *France* is not consumed at Home, but sent out again in different Proportions to all the *Northern Nations*, and even to the *East* and *West-Indies*; so that upon the whole, We may say that this Trade is of great Importance to the *Dutch*, but absolutely necessary to the *French*.

If FRANCE gains extreamly by the DUTCH, the Trade with SPAIN is on the other Hand, prodigiously in Favour of the *Hollander*. This Commerce is divided into three Branches. That of the *Northern Parts* of SPAIN, *Old Castile*, *Leon*, *Arragon*, *Navarre*, *Guipus-*

coa, and the *Asturies*, is carried on principally by the Ports of *Bilboa*, and *St. Sebastian*. The Commerce of the *Southern Provinces*, which lie on the *Mediterranean*, is almost entirely transacted at *Alicant*, *Malaga*, *Carthage*, and *Majorca*. The *third* Branch, which is of far greater Importance both to the *Spaniard* and the *Hollander* than the other Two, is the Trade of *Cadiz*, which comprehends That of the *Spanish West-Indies*, in which the *Dutch* are every Year very deeply concerned, notwithstanding the severe Prohibitions made by the *Court of Madrid*, to prevent and deter *Foreigners* from having any Share in this Commerce.

The Commodities the DUTCH export to SPAIN, for the Consumption of that Kingdom, and the Exportation to America, are hardly to be enumerated. Linnens of all Sorts; *Hollands*, *Cambricks*, *Lawns*, and *Mustins*; fine and coarse *Callicoes*; *Table Linen*, *Tapes*, and *Filitings*, are brought to all the Ports abovementioned, in prodigious Quantities. There is an equal Demand for their *Woollen Manufactures*, *Broad-cloath*, *Camblets*, and *Serges*. *Gold* and *Silver-Brocades*, with several other Sorts of *Silks*, make another Article of great Importance. They bring likewise great Quantities of *Paper*, *Cards*, *Lace*, *Ribands*, *Hats*, and *small Wares* of

of *Steel, Copper, and Iron* ; great Quantities of *Timber* for Building; *Wood* for *Barrels*, with other Productions of the NORTH, such as *Russia-Leather*, white and yellow *Wax*, of which Commodity alone, they are said to sell the *Spaniards* every Year, to the Value of *four hundred thousand Pound Sterling*, which is owing to the prodigious Consumption of It in the *Churches* of *Spain*, and *America* ; and to these we must add, abundance of *naval Stores, Pitch, Tar, Cordage, Masts, Planks*, and all Sorts of *Ammunition*. After which we may reckon *Provisions* of several Kinds, *Herrings, Cod*, and other *Salt-Fish, Corn, Butter*, and *Cheese*.

It remains, that we mention the *Spices*, and *Druggs*, of both which there, is a very great Consumption, both in *Spain*, and *America*. The DUTCH, as is observed above, being Masters of the fine *Spices, Cloves, Nutmegs*, and *Cinnamon*, They alone, sell these Commodities to the *Spaniards*; And 'tis affirmed, that near one half of all the *Cinnamon* They bring from *India*, is consumed in *Spain*, and *America* ; principally by Those of *Peru*, in making *Chocolate*. They serve the *Spaniards* likewise, with a considerable Quantity of *Pepper*, and abundance of *Druggs* that are used both *Medicinally*, and for *Colouring*.

In Return for so large and rich a Cargo, the *Dutch* import from the *Northern* Parts of *Spain*, great quantities of *fine Wool*, which is wrought up in their *Manufactures*. A great Quantity of *Iron*, *Chestnuts*, *Lemons*, *Oranges*, and *Anchovies*. The *Southern* Provinces furnish Them also with abundance of *fine Wool*, and great quantities of *Oil*, *Olives*, *Figgs*, *Raisins*, *Almonds*, *Aniseeds*, and several other Fruits, *Salt*, *Soap* and *Wines*, of which, They take off great Quantities, especially, when their Commerce with *France* is interrupted.

From *CADIZ*, They bring back many of the above-mentioned Particulars ; but what is of far greater Consequence, They receive upon the arrival of the *Galleons* and *Flo-tilla*, from the *West-Indies*, a very large Sum of Money, in Payment for the Commodities They send thither. This rich Return is made in the Productions of *AME-RICA*, *Gold* and *Silver*, with such other Commodities, as pass every where for Ready Money, *Pearls*, *Emeralds*, *Cochinele*, *Tobacco*, *Cocoa*, *Indigo*, *Quinquina*, *Vanilles*, *Leather*, *Wood*, from the *Bay of Campechy*, and several other Particulars. The *GALLEONS*, for *Carthagen*a, and *Portobello*, and the *FLO-TILLA*, for *Vera-Cruz*, sail constantly from *Cadiz*, and return thither. It is generally known,

known, that the *Court of Madrid* prohibits all Strangers to trade to the *Spanish West-Indies*, without *Licence*, upon very severe Penalties. Yet, the *Dutch*, as well as the *English* and *French*, find means to drive a Trade with those Countries, almost to as good a Purpose, as if They had an open Permission, or an *Affiento*; and this is done by entrusting their Goods with *Spanish Merchants*, who sell Them in their own Names; and, as faithful *Factors*, never fail to return the just Product, after deducting the Charges of the *Commission*, as agreed on.

It was never to be pretended, and much less, since the late Rupture, that the *Court of Madrid* is ignorant, in what manner the *Dutch*, and other Nations, evade her Prohibitions, to trade to the *Spanish Colonies* in *America*; but why this clandestine Commerce is tollerated, is a Question, that will not be so easily resolved. I do not think it sufficient to say, that Policy engages the *Spaniard* to wink at it: I am sure it will always be very ill Policy in any *State*, to suffer a Neighbour to take annually half a Million of Money out of her Coffers, if there be a possibility of preventing it. We must therefore ask a better Reason; and I believe the true One is, that the *Spaniards*, who of all Mankind,
are

are the worst *Oeconomists*, are so poor, that it is not in their Power to purchase such a Cargo as is absolutely necessary for the Supply of *America*; otherwise, nothing would be so natural, as for the very Merchants, who now send the *Dutch*, *English*, and *French* Goods thither upon Commission, to buy Them up at *Cadiz*, and by consigning them to *America* upon their own Accounts, secure the Profits of the Return to Themselves. But this They are not able to do; and the *Dutch*, who, upon all Occasions, are very ready to sell upon *Trust*, and do really give the longest Credit of any Nation in *Europe*, refuse it to the *Spaniards*, because by that means, They make themselves Principals in the Cargo to *America*.

We have already observed, that when the CROWN of PORTUGAL became re-united to that of SPAIN, in the time of PHILIP II, all Commerce between HOLLAND and that CROWN ceased. The PORTUGUEZE became Parties to PHILIP'S Quarrel with his *Netherland Subjects*, and War ensued between Them and the *Dutch*, which in the end, cost *Portugal* almost all it possessed in the *East-Indies*; In which Posture Things continued for sixty Years, when the *Portuguese* revolted from *Spain*, and Crowned the Duke of BRAGANZA their KING, who immediately

mediately made a Truce with the *United Provinces*. This however, was not well observed. A second War broke out between the two Nations ; and the Quarrel was never thoroughly healed, till 1661, when a *Treaty of Peace* was concluded between Them, by the Mediation of CHARLES II, KING of ENGLAND ; since which Time, Commerce has been carried on between HOLLAND and PORTUGAL, without any Interruption.

The Merchandize of this Kingdom, consists in its own Productions, and those that are Imported from the *Portugueze Colonies*, and *Plantations* in the *East and West-Indies*, *Brazil*, the *Cape de Verde Islands*, and the *Terceras*.

PORTUGAL produces *Wine*, *Oil*, *Olives*, *Aniseeds*, *Lemons*, *Oranges*, *Raisins*, and *Figgs*. From the *East-Indies*, they import great quantities of *Diamonds* and *Pearls*, *Indigo*, *Ginger*, *Ambergrease*, and several other Particulars. The principal Commodities of *Brazil*, are *Sugar*, *Tobacco*, and the *Wood*, which bears its Name. The *Cape de Verde Islands*, and the *Terceras*, abound also in *Sugar* ; and the *Isle of Madera*, which produces the best, is at the same time, famous for excellent *Wine*. These are the principal Commodities that are found in
Portugal

Portugal; of which the *Dutch* take off *Sugar*, *Tobacco*, and *Fruits*, in great Quantities. LISBON, is the Port They generally trade to; and hither They bring the *Woollen* and *Silk Manufactures* of *Holland*; a great deal of *Linnen*, *Spices*, *Herrings*, and other *salt Fish*, *Leather*, *Paper*, *Cards*, *Iron-Work*, *small Wares*, and *Corn*, when there is a scarcity of It in *Portugal*. The *Hollanders* employ forty or fifty Sail of Ships in this Commerce, and the *Ballance* of Trade is largely in their Favour.

GENOA, LEGHORN, VENICE, NAPLES, and MESSINA, are the principal Ports of ITALY. These afford plain and wrought *Velvets*; Gold and Silver *Brocades*, *Sattins*, and *Damasks*, either plain, or with Gold and Silver Grounds, wonderfully rich and beautiful beyond Expression; *Tabbies*, *Gold Thread*, &c.

It is unnecessary to say more of Commodities, that are so common amongst Us, and so generally admired. SILK is the Basis of the *Italian Trade*, and of this, the *Dutch* bring Home very great quantities in all its Shapes, whether raw, twisted, or woven; with abundance of the inferior Merchandize of ITALY, *Oil*, *Lemons*, *Oranges*, and several dried *Fruits*, *Figgs*, *Raisins*, *A'monds*; with *Marble*, *Soap*, *Essences*,

sences, *Allom*, *Sulphur*, *Venetian Steel*, *Amber*, *Turpentine*, *Manna*, *Crete-Tartar*, *fine Lacca*, *Snuff*, and *Glass*. *Confections*, and several kinds of *Provisions*, such as *Anchovies*, *Parmesan Cheese*, and *Sausages*, make another Article in the *Italian Commerce*; all which are purchased by the following *Commodities*, which the *Dutch* export to *Italy*, directly from *Holland*. A great quantity of *fine Spices* and *Pepper*, *Herrings*, *Cod*, *Stock-Fish*, *Salmon*, and in General, all sorts of *salted and dried Fish*. Abundance of *Caviar*, a great deal of *Wheat*, and other *Grain*; *Russia-Leather*, *Iron*, *Copper*, *Pitch*, *Tar*, *Masts*, *Planks*, *Hemp*, and all other *Naval Stores*. *Tin* and *Lead*; most kinds of *Woollen* and *Linnen Manufactures*, *Linnen Thread*, *Walebone*, &c. which several *Merchandizes* are brought indifferently to every *Port* above-mentioned; and to the *Inferior Ports* of the *Mediterranean*, with exception only to *Venice*, where *Cloth*, *Iron*, and *Steel*, are *Prohibited*; but all the other *Particulars*, have a *free Entry* there also.



SECT VIII.
OF THE
DUTCH TRADE
TO THE
LEVANT.



THE Trade carried on from HOLLAND to the LEVANT, is of very great Importance to the *Republic*, both for the Quantity and Quality of Merchandize exported thither, as well as that which the *Dutch* bring from thence, and distribute afterwards, with very great Profit to the different *People* of *Europe*.

Of

Of all the *Sea-Ports* within the Dominions of the GRAND SEIGNIOR, SMIRNA is the most considerable, for the resort of *European Vessels*. She is oblig'd for this Advantage to the CARAVANS, that come regularly thither with the Productions of *Persia*; and these, the *Dutch* take in exchange for the Commodities They carry to *Smirna*, which are equally proper for *Persia* and *Turkey*. The Merchandize brought by the *Caravans*, consists of *Silks*, *Muslins*, *Callicoes*, *Goats-Hair* for *Camblets*; *Rhubarb*, and *Scammony* from *Tartary*, *Galbanum*, *Tutia*, *Ippomenes*; with great quantities of other rich *Druggs*, and several sorts of *Gumms*. Besides these, *Smirna* is the greatest Market for the Productions of *TURKEY*, and the Islands of the *Archipelago*, of which, the principal are *Cardovan*, or *Turkey-Leather*, which the *Dutch* take off in great quantities; *Cotton* from *Cyprus*; *Currants* from *Zant* and *Cephalonia*; *Mastick* from *Chio*, and sometimes great quantities of *Corn* from the adjacent Islands.

After *Smirna*, Grand CAIRO is the most considerable Town for Commerce in the Dominions of the TURK. This City, is indeed, but the Shadow of what She formerly was, when the whole Trade of the *East-Indies* was carried on by the *Red-Sea*,
and

and the *Nile* ; yet, She is still the general Magazine for all the Productions of the Kingdom of *Egypt* ; and still retains some Commerce with *Arabia felix*, *Persia*, and the nearest Parts of the *East-Indies*. GRAND CAIRO, affords *Coffee*, *Frankincence*, *Sena*, *Aloes*, *Cassia*, *Sal-Armoniac*, *Tamarinds*, *Pine Kernels*, *Ostrich Feathers* ; and several other Commodities. *Alexandria* and *Rhodes*, situated on the two Entrances of the *Nile*, are the Sea-Ports of this City, for the Reception of *Christian Vessels* ; as *Damietta*, which lies on the same River, is for Those of *Turkey* and *Africa*.

I could not help saying something of *Grand Cairo*, tho' the *Dutch* have very little Trade with that City, and still less with *Constantinople* and *Aleppo*, which abound with the same kinds of Commodities, that are found at *Grand Cairo*. SMIRNA, is the Centre of all their Traffick to *Turkey*, and the *Levant* ; and hither They bring vast quantities of their *Cloth*, and other *Woollen Manufactures* ; many of the *Baltick* Commodities : *Steel* and *Iron*, in several Shapes, *tinned Iron*, *Iron-Wire*, and *Brass* ; a great deal of *Russia-Leather* ; almost all the *Lead* and *Tin*, They bring from the *East-Indies*, and all They can procure from *England* : To which we must add, many of the finest
Woods

Woods and Druggs for Dyeing; Cochineel Gumlac, and Indigo; Fernambouc, Brazillet, Siampan, and Campechy. In the Rear of these, we may reckon the *Spices*, which, by a most astonishing *Revolution in Commerce*, the *Dutch* now bring, after a difficult Navigation, of seven or eight Thousand Leagues, to those very Countries, which formerly supplied all *Europe*, with these Commodities *Cloves, Nutmegs, Mace, and Cinnamon*; with *Pepper, Ginger, and Sugar*, are brought from *Holland* to *Smirna*, in very great Quantities: And besides all these, They also carry thither several *Italian and Spanish Commodities*; For the *Dutch*, in their way from *Holland*, never fail to touch either at *Cadiz*, or *Leghorn*, where they furnish Themselves with such Things, as are proper for the Market at *Smirna*; and in the same manner, They call at those Places in their Return Home, where they dispose of many Particulars, that They bring from the *Levant*.

The *Ballance* upon this Trade, is very much against the *Dutch*; and accordingly, They carry to *Smirna*, a great Quantity of their own *Dollers*, and Pieces of *Eight*, which they buy at *Cadiz*, and *Leghorn*; yet, this is far from impoverishing *Holland*, because of the Commodities brought from

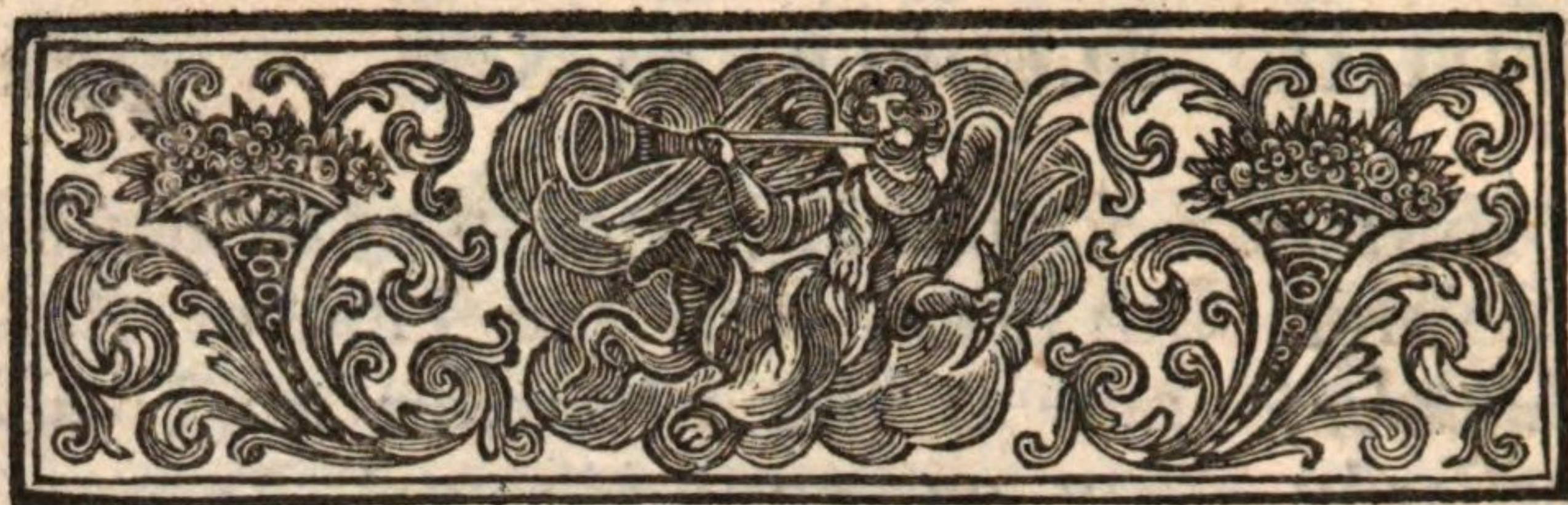
the *Levant*, not one Fourth is consumed there, and the rest, is sold out again to the several Nations the *Dutch* deal with, at a Price that sufficiently pays the Interest of the Money They advanced at *Smirna*.

The STATES GENERAL, have shewn, upon all Occasions, that They thought this Commerce, of very great Importance to their Subjects; and have always been very attentive to every Thing that might possibly promote it. It was with this view, that They constituted a Court of *Directors*, for the Trade of the *Mediterranean*, and the *Levant*; which consists of six *Commissioners* and a *Register*, who are charged with the Execution of all *Laws* and *Resolutions*, made by the *States General*, with relation to this *Commerce*. They nominate, with the Consent of the *States*, the *Consul* of *Smirna*, and the other *Vice Consuls* of the *Levant*: They advise the *Admiralty*, what Number of *Men of War* are necessary for *Convoys*, and in general, They inspect all Affairs, and terminate all Disputes concerning this Trade. The *States General* have always maintained a *Minister* at the *Porte*, in Quality of *Envoy*, whose Business consists in little more, than taking Care of the trading Interest. We now first see,
MONSIEUR

MONSIEUR CALCOEN, appointed to succeed COUNT COLLIAR, with the Title of *Embassador*, but as this Character must necessarily draw on an Additional Expence, it was very much contested by those *Provinces*, who have not an equal Interest in the Trade to the *Levant*, with that of *Holland*.

For a few Years past that the *Dutch* have been at War with the *Algerines*, their *Levant Trade* has been in a good Measure, carried on in *English Bottoms*, to the great Detriment of their own *Navigation*, and the Encouragement of Ours ; but They have now made Peace with that *State*, and consequently, their own Ships will be again employ'd in this Commerce.





S E C T. VIII.

OF THE

DUTCH TRADE

TO

ENGLAND,

Scotland, and Ireland.



THE Neighbourhood of ENGLAND, and HOLLAND, naturally produced a very early Correspondence between the two Nations, which since the Formation of the *Republic*, has encreased, in Proportion to the Augmentation of Commerce on both Sides, and as the Necessity of the Times required.

It

It shall be the Business of this SECTION, to describe *Trade*, as it now subsists, between the *English* and the *Dutch*, without examining what is well, or what may want a Reformation, which is an Enquiry I reserve, amongst others, for the third Part of this Discourse.

Our Commerce with *Holland*, is carried on almost entirely in our own Bottoms, from all the most considerable Ports in the *Kingdom*. I have already taken Notice, That *ROTTERDAM*, is in Possession of the *British* and *Irish* Trades, almost to an Exclusion of the other Towns of *Holland*, and accordingly Her Canals, are in a Manner always filled with Ships and Vessels from *London*, *Tarmouth*, and the other Ports of *Norfolk*, and from *Newcastle*, *Shields*, *Hull*, *Whitehaven*, *Liverpool*, *Bristol*, *Topsam*; and the most considerable Ports of *Scotland* and *Ireland*.

The principal Commodities sent thither from *England*, are *Woollen Manufactures* of several Sorts, *Broad-cloaths*, *Norwich-crapes*, and other *Stuffs*; *Grain* of several Kinds; *Tin*, *Lead*, and *Coals*; *Tobacco*, and *Sugar*. In the second Class, We may reckon *Tea*, *Coffee*, *Stockings*, *Hats*, and some other small Articles. Our fine *Broad-cloaths*, bear a good Price in *Holland*, for tho' the *Dutch* make

Woollen Cloath, in a tolerable Perfection, They are, however inferior to Us, in many Branches of the *Manufactory*, and particularly in *mixing* their *Colours*; and in *milling* and *shearing* the *Cloath*. Those who understand the least of the *woollen Manufactory* know, that the Beauty of *Cloath* depends very much upon the *Shearing*; and if the *Dutch* were not a People extreamly tenacious of old Customs; a *Spanish Quality* that They still retain amongst Others, They had now been very well instructed how to perform that Part of the *Manufactory*, in the *English Manner*. There has been for some Years past, a *Shearmaker* in *Holland*, called *Turner*, Son to the famous *Shearmaker* of that Name, in *London*, who not only makes, grinds, and sets *Shears*, to the greatest Nicety and Perfection, even beyond the Imitation of Those who are commonly stiled good Workmen; but can also shear with great Dexterity. This Person first carried his Art to *Abbeville*, where having given all the Insight He could, to the celebrated *Monsieur van Robais*; He came a few Years ago to *Holland*, and found a very good Reception amongst the Manufacturers of *Leyden*, where He both makes abundance of *Shears*, sets a great many more, and finds the Means to have large Quantities from *London*, notwithstanding their Expor-

Exportation is prohibited. I am very well assured, He has more than once offered to instruct the Workmen of *Leyden* in our Method of Shearing, which Nothing but an Aversion to Novelty, and the natural Perverseness of their Temper prevents Them from acquiring. *Turner*, notwithstanding the Advantages I have mentioned, remains extremely poor, through an idle, and spendthrift Disposition, so that a small Sum of Money, and his Pardon, might probably tempt him Home.

Formerly, the *English* kept Ware-houses for their Woollen Manufactures at *Dort*, which was the Staple Mart for that Trade; but at present the *Dutch* commission their Factors in *England*, to buy up what they have Occasion for, which is accordingly done, and the Goods are consigned directly to Themselves. I may add, under this Article, that besides the Cloath, the *Dutch* take from Us, for their own Use, *Holland* is the Passage for a vast Quantity of coarse woollen Manufactures of *Yorkshire* and *Lancashire*, which are consumed in the adjacent Parts of *Germany*.

GRAIN, of several Kinds, is an Article of great Importance in our Trade to *Holland*. Most of the *Wheat* the *Dutch* take from Us, is exported from *London*, and It would

be difficult to say the vast Quantities of *Malt* and other Grain that we send Them annually from *Tarmouth* and the other Ports of *Norfolk*. By an Act of *Parliament*, made in the twelfth Year of *QUEEN ANNE*, there was a Drawback allowed of *six Pence per Bushel* upon all *Malt exported* into foreign Countries, the Reason of which, I presume, was to enable the *English Merchant* to furnish the *Southern Parts* of the *Province of Holland*, and other Countries, as cheap, or cheaper, than those of *Amsterdam*, could do with the *Malt* They make of the *Barley* imported from the *Baltick*. The Intention of this Act was laudable, but the Abuse of It so enormous, by a fraudulent Manner of working *Malt* designed for *Exportation*, and perhaps in Shipping It too, that the *LEGISLATURE* thought It proper in the *Parliament* of 1726, to repeal that Act, as far as it relates to exported *Malt*; and not without Reason, for by the Knavery of the Exporters, *Malt* was in a Manner paid for by the *Drawback*, so that They might very well afford to sell It cheap at *ROTTERDAM*, where I have seen both *Malt* and *Barley* sold off, for little more than an honest *Malster* in *England* could prepare it, or the *Farmer* get It into his *Barn*.

TIN, and LEAD, are Commodities that need no Encouragement for Exportation. Their Value is commonly known, and they seldom fail to find a quick Market wherever they are sent. The *Dutch* buy all They can get of Us, and re-export a great deal more than They use in their Home Consumption.

COALS, are a good Article in our *Dutch Commerce*, and employ a great many Ships from *Newcastle*, and the *Northern Ports*. 'Tis more than probable too, that this Trade will encrease and grow more advantageous to Us every Year, in proportion, as the *Marshy Lands* in *Holland* are wasted; which now afford an immense Quantity of *Turf*, consumed in the common Fireing of the *Netherlands*; but must one Day certainly be exhausted, notwithstanding the nature of the *Soil*, which plumps up and grows incredibly, assisted by the *Slime* and *Mud*, which the *Dutch* collect with great and constant Labour, and throw upon those Places from whence They cut the *Turf*.

TOBACCO and SUGAR, are Articles of the highest consideration, in our Trade with *Holland*, especially the former. Of *Forty Thousand Hogsheads* of *Tobacco*, that we may import from our *Colonies* in the *West-Indies*, *communibus Annis*, not less than one Third
is

is sent annually to *Holland*, where a vast deal of it is consumed, and the rest sold to the *Germans*, *Norwegians*, and Others.

HOLLAND, takes off a great deal of our low prized *Tea*, and damaged *Coffee*, the Consumption, of which, is no where so general as amongst the *Dutch*; so that a good Part of what They buy of Us, is used by themselves, and the rest They retail to our *Sailors*, who run it back into all the different Parts of *England*.

There is some Demand in *Holland*, for our *Stockings*, *Hats*, and other inferior Articles, both for their Home Consumption, and Exportation.

In Return for these several Commodities, the *Dutch* send to *England*, a great Quantity of their *fine Spices*, and some *Druggs*: Abundance of *Linnen* of different sorts; *Velvets*, and other *Silk Manufactures*; a great deal of *Sail Cloth*; large quantities of *Paper*, *Rhenish Wine*, and *French Brandy*, under the Denomination of *Rhenish*; *Wines* of the Growth of *France*, sent by way of *Dunkirk* and *Calais*; Abundance of *Geneva*, and other *Spirits*; A large quantity of a certain dyeing Stuff, called *Mather*, produced in an Island of the *Maeze*; A vast number of *Slit Deals*, and fine *Wainscot Boards*; some *Herrings*, and other salted
Fish

Fish ; Many of the Commodities of *Flanders*, and *Brabant* ; as *Lace*, *Cambricks*, *Lawns* ; and to these, we may add, *Pictures*, *Toys*, and other inferior Articles.

Some of these Particulars may perhaps, come again under our Consideration in the third Part of this Book. In the mean time, I shall venture to ascertain what has passed amongst the Generality of Persons, for a moot Point, whether the *Ballance of Trade* be in favour of *England*, or *Holland* ; which, after the strictest Examination, of the Quantity and Quality, of the several *Species* of Merchandize that the two *Nations* exchange with each other, and all the Information I have been able to procure from the best Judges, as well as the Inspection of the Entries of *Imports* and *Exports* at *London*, I find, upon a *Medium* of seven Years, to be extreamly in Favour of *England* ; but were it exactly at *Par*, the Benefit derived to *Great Britain*, is greater than any that can possibly accrue to *Holland*, by all the Advantages, that naturally arise from carrying on the Trade, almost entirely with our own Ships.

The Trade between *HOLLAND* and *SCOTLAND*, is in the same Manner carried on principally by *Scotch Vessels*. These bring

bring to *Holland* and *Zealand*, several Sorts of coarse *Woollen Manufactures* in large Quantities; *Lead*, and *Lead Oar*, *Coals*, salted *Salmon*, *Hides*, *Tallow*, *Corn*, and since the UNION, a great deal of *Tobacco*. In exchange for which, They carry back the same Commodities that are sent from *Holland* to *England*, in smaller Proportions ; to which we may add, *Flax-Seed*, of which They take off annually, a very considerable Quantity.

The Trade the DUTCH have with IRELAND, is very considerable. CORK, WATERFORD, and BELFAST, are the principal Ports in that Kingdom, for Exportation ; from whence They send to *Holland*, a great deal of *barrelled Beef* and *Butter*, *Tallow* and *Hides*, *Wax*, and some other Particulars. The Return is made principally to the Port of *Dublin* ; which consists of great Quantities of the fine *Silk* and *Linnen Manufactures* of *Holland* ; and in general, the same Commodities, that we have mentioned in the Article of *England* ; to which we may add, *Flax-Seed*, which *Ireland* also, has lately begun to take off in large Quantities.

The end of the second PART.

Burrish, Onslow,

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